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USSR Report

CONSUMER GOODS AND DOMESTIC TRADE

No. 57



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CONSUMER GOODS PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

INTERNATIONAL LIGHT INDUSTRY EXHIBITION IN MOSCOW

Yerevan PROMYSHLENNOST' ARMENII in Russian No 11, Nov 82 pp 74-77

[Article by PROMYSHLENNOST' ARMENII correspondent L. Manayan: "International Light Industry Exhibition-82"]

[Text] For the third time our country's capital has welcomed the participants and guests of the international exhibition "Equipment and Technological Processes in the Light Industry"--the "International Light Industry Exhibition-82" [Inlegmash-82]. The two previous reviews were held in 1970 and 1976. Compared to them, the Inlegmash-82 exposition is much more impressive.

In the Sokol'niki park's exhibition pavilions and the two wings of the Krasnaya Presnya complex, occupying an overall area of more than 33,000 m³, achievements in the field of machine building for the textile and light industries were demonstrated by more than 500 companies and firms of 22 European, American and Asian countries --Austria, Bulgaria, Great Britain, Hungary, the GDR, Poland, Czechoslovakia, the United States and other countries.

The Soviet section was the largest at the exhibition. More than 60 enterprises of 10 ministries participated in its formation. Over 1,500 exhibits were displayed at the exposition's 10 subsections, including highly productive looms, industrial equipment for spinning mills, modern units for dyeing and finishing production, machines for making knitted fabrics and goods, systems and elements for automating industrial processes and other equipment.

...Lamps of an electronic computer begin to flicker, a display screen lights up and an automatic drafting device on a large Kuhlman drafting unit begins to plot intricate patterns on a sheet of paper. A movement of a man's hand at the control console and the circle, with a client standing in its center, begins to rise smoothly with a light hum. A tape that winds around his legs begins to move rapidly upward. A minute later, the operator brings the client out from the circle and shows him an exact image of his figure on the visual display. At his command, the client's double on the shimmering screen dresses itself in a fashionable suit. An automatic modeling device behind the Kuhlman drafting unit comes to life and lines forming the outline of a future suit begin appearing on a sheet of Whatman paper. A few minutes later the operator gets a complete pattern.

This "wonder-cutter," a PTK-100 general purpose programmed industrial complex, which was displayed at the Soviet exposition, has no analogues in the world. The anthropometric complex was created by specialists of the All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Textile and Light Machinery [VNIILtekماش], the Central Design Bureau of Automated Control Systems [SKB ASU] of the RSFSR Ministry of Consumer Services, the Information Transmission Problems Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences and the Central Experimental-Industrial Laboratory of the RSFSR Ministry of Consumer Services. It is intended for automated measuring of a man's figure, designing sewn goods on individual orders, drawing patterns and preparing control programs for automatic cutting systems. The complex is highly economical and replaces eight master cutters. Moreover, it saves time of a customer and can assist in rational cutting of the fabric with a minimum of waste. The device yields more than R30,000 in savings a year. It will soon appear in our clothing repair and tailoring shops. The experimental plant of the All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Textile and Light Machinery plans to produce the first batch of PTK-100 next year.

In conversation with journalists, I. I. Pudkov, minister of the USSR Ministry of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances, who is also chairman of the Inlegماش-82 organizational committee, said that Soviet equipment of this sector is being currently used in 50 countries of the world. Taking into account the steady rise of the Soviet people's well-being and increased demands on the one hand and the changeability of fashions on the other hand, it is not that simple to achieve complete satisfaction of these demands. But it is precisely in this direction that machine builders for the light industry are guided by the decisions of the 26th party congress, which call for rapid development of consumer goods production. In the light industry alone the volume of production output must be increased 18-20 percent during the years of the five-year plan.

Highly productive equipment, leading manufacturing methods and high quality raw materials and supplies will be needed to fulfill this difficult task. Machine building for the light industry and chemical fiber production supplies implements of labor to 28 subsectors of the light industry and consumer service enterprises, which employ 16 percent of all those working in the industry and produce nearly 15 percent of our country's total industrial output. During the 1970-80 period, the volume of industrial equipment production for the light industry increased nearly 1.8-fold. The main attention during the past five-year plan was devoted to creating and introducing equipment for comprehensive mechanization of production processes. This was a transition period from creating individual machines to developing systems of machines, machine units and flow lines, comprehensively solving questions of increasing the volumes of production and labor productivity, reducing metal content and energy capacity of equipment and raising its reliability and quality. In this sense it is very characteristic, I. I. Pudkov said, that unlike previous exhibitions when only individual machine units were shown, this time basically entire sets of machines were displayed in the Soviet section. In moving from one hall to another, the visitor could see from the beginning to the end the entire process of transforming various raw materials and supplies into finished production--attractive and high quality garments, footwear and haberdashery articles.

In accordance with the "Basic Directions of Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1981-85 and the period up to 1990," development and production of

highly efficient systems of machines and equipment is being implemented in the 11th Five-Year Plan, which ensure mechanization and automation of industrial processes and at the same time improve quality and expand the variety of goods being produced. New highly productive flow lines and sets of equipment for preliminary processing of cotton and flax, spindless spinning of fibers and finishing knitted goods and fabrics and for producing nonwoven materials, garments and footwear will be produced. One of the basic directions of technical progress in creating industrial equipment for the textile and light industries is creating and introducing new highly efficient systems of machines, sets of machinery and flow lines equipped with automatic control and operation systems that use electronics and computer engineering on a broad scale. It is also planned to continue improving existing types of machines in order to raise their productivity, reliability and quality. The third direction is comprehensive mechanization and automation of ancillary operations, reduction of noise and vibration and improvement of sanitation and hygiene conditions of labor. More than 450 items of industrial equipment will be developed and put in series production during the years of the current five-year plan.

I. I. Pudkov continued by saying that a significant place at the exhibition was devoted to the results of joint work done by specialists of the socialist countries. A distinctive feature in development of the USSR's foreign economic relations with CEMA-member countries during the past several years is that it has relied much more than previously on the international division of labor, the established international many-sided specialization and the production collaboration developed on the basis of cooperation.

The displays shown in an area of more 12,500 m² included series machines which have proven themselves in operation as well as new models created on the basis of latest scientific and technical achievements. Complete sets of equipment for outfitting automated spinning, which have been developed by our specialists, are already in series production.

The flow lines for processing cotton by the pneumomechanic method which are displayed here are of great interest. As a result of these lines man practically does not touch the raw material with his hands on the entire path from the bale of cotton to the card sliver. Similar lines have been developed for flax and wool processing (PPM-160, PPM-240-Sh, PPM-240-L). The PSK-225-ShG machines with aerodynamic twisting elements--the future of spinning production. Their use makes it possible to increase yarn output per square meter of production space 3.2-fold and labor productivity 10-12 times compared with annular wool spinning machines.

Spinning today is done without the traditional spindle, and weaving without the usual shuttle. During the past five-year plan, introduction of shuttleless weaving on a broad scale was the basic direction in improving weaving equipment. Along with new modifications of these machines, the exhibition also demonstrated multished machines which simultaneously lay several dozen threads across the cloth (the ATPR-100-4 automatic pneumofoil [pnevморapirnyy] loom, the STB-4-220-Zh shuttleless loom with a jacquard machine, the STB-4-220-PU shuttleless loom with programmed control and solenoid-operated hydraulic carriage and the MT-330 multished machine, whose productivity is 3 to 4 times higher than the best shuttleless loom).

Visitors spent a long time in the knitwear equipment department examining the DL-4M circular knitting two-stage cotton rib top frame which is equipped with a forced thread feed mechanism and is used in manufacturing underwear linen and the KKK-9 machine used in making patterns of knitted outerwear with increased number of systems and high speed parameters.

Sewing is one of the largest sectors of the light industry. The exhibition demonstrated equipment which makes it possible to increase labor productivity more than 1.5 times--semiautomatic machines for making decorative stitches, backstitch trimming of pocket lining, tapering intricately patterned parts of a man's suit, seaming long curved stitches and so forth.

Out of the tanning equipment which drew attention was the APKSB-1800-K flameproof machine, which replaces manual labor and is used in dyeing and drying leather by means of spraying, and the PPKP-KG conveyer machine for stretching leather for gloves which doubles labor productivity. Electrohydraulic presses for cutting out lower and upper parts of footwear were demonstrated on a broad scale. For the first time in the world our country has organized semiautomatic lines for the production of footwear using the adhesive method of bonding. During the entire period of the exhibition, there were many visitors near the PLK-3-0 line, which differs from its forerunners in that it is equipped with an automatic adhesive feed system. As a result of this system, labor productivity was almost quadrupled.

Many display stands in the Soviet section as well as in the exposition of the socialist countries were devoted to activity of the international economic association of CEMA member-countries, the Intertekstil'mash [not further identified]. The Tekstima [not further identified] combine (GDR) is actively participating in the work of this association. Tekstima representative M. May said that the combine produces flat knitting and warp knitting equipment, machines for spinning factories and sewing and finishing machines. A graphic example of cooperation between the Soviet Penztekماش [not further identified] and Tekstima, he said, is the combing machine, which has a productivity of 50 kg per hour, some of whose units are produced in Penza and assembled in the GDR. A characteristic distinction of this machine is that it can be used both for natural and chemical fibers.

There were many examples of cooperation with specialists from the socialist countries at the exhibition. For example, the highly productive lines for the production of footwear using the adhesive method, which were mentioned earlier, were developed by specialists of our country, the GDR and the CSSR and the set of equipment for sewing garments was created in cooperation with enterprises of the Hungarian People's Republic, the Polish People's Republic, the CSSR and the GDR.

The Inlegmash-82 exhibition was a center for broad exchange of achievements and experience among Soviet and foreign specialists and served further progress of this important sector of machine building.

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CONSUMER GOODS PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

LATVIAN MILK PRODUCTION FIGURES GIVEN

Preventing Reductions in Milk Yields

Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 23 Sep 82 p 3

[Article: "Preventing Reductions in Milk Yields"]

[Text] Ministry of Agriculture Summary of Milk Yields for Second Ten Day Period
Period in September (in kg)

Rayons	Overall Milk Yield in 1982, in % of 1981	Average Daily Milk Yield Per Cow	+ or - Compared To Last Year
Dobel'skiy	108	10.1	+0.8
Daugavpilsskiy	107	8.5	+0.6
Tukumskiy	105	8.2	+0.3
Saldusskiy	105	8.0	+0.2
Rizhskiy	104	10.7	+0.4
Madonskiy	104	8.6	+0.2
Liyepayskiy	104	8.5	+0.3
Yelgavskiy	103	9.2	+0.2
Kraslavskiy	103	7.8	+0.3
Rezeknenskiy	103	7.6	+0.2
Bauskiy	102	8.9	+0.2
Valkskiy	102	8.7	+0.2
Ventspilsskiy	102	8.6	-
Preyl'skiy	102	8.5	-
Tsesisskiy	102	7.9	+0.2
Stachkinskiy	101	8.4	+0.1
Yekabpilsskiy	101	7.6	-0.1
Balvskiy	101	7.3	-
Kuldigskiy	100	7.7	-0.1
Valmiyerskiy	99	9.1	-0.1
Limbazhskiy	99	8.5	+0.2
Ogrskiy	99	8.0	-0.1
Ludzenskiy	98	6.5	-
Talsinskiy	97	8.7	-0.3
Aluksnenskiy	97	8.0	-0.1
Gulbenskiy	97	8.0	-0.3
Average for the republic	102	8.4	+0.2

During the second 10-day period in September the daily milk yields, compared to the previous 10-day period, decreased on the whole throughout the republic by 0.5 kg. A considerable reduction took place in Daugavpilsskiy Rayon -- 0.8 kg and in Rezeknenskiy, Preyl'skiy and Gu'benskiy Rayons -- 0.7 kg.

In each rayon there are farms on which the herd productivity is rather high even during the autumn period. Thus the Sidgunda Kolkhoz in Rizhskiy Rayon is presently obtaining an average of 13.4 kg of milk daily from each cow. The kolkhozes imeni Lenin in Preyl'skiy Rayon, Druva in Salduskiy, Spars in Gulbenskiy and Rits in Stuchkinskiy Rayon are obtaining 11-12 kg. The daily milk yield at the Yaunpils Animal Husbandry Experimental Station exceeds 15 kg.

Stable milk yields are being obtained from groups of cows being tended by Yadviga Yakubovskayte at the Tervete Kolkhoz in Dobel'skiy Rayon and by Stanislav Livmanis at the Yaunpils Experimental Station. They are presently obtaining 21 kg of milk per cow. Valentina Sidorova at the Krasnyy Oktyabr' Kolkhoz in Preyl'skiy Rayon and Ayna Dreymane at the Adazhi Kolkhoz in Rizhskiy Rayon are obtaining only 1 kg less in their milk yields.

The milk yields at the Istalsna Sovkhoz in Ludzenskiy Rayon were low throughout the entire summer. The farm leaders placed the blame on poor pastures, which had suffered from drought conditions. But the situation did not improve even when adequate amounts of green feed appeared out on the fields. The sovkhov is presently obtaining 4.5 kg of milk per cow. The cause -- poor livestock maintenance. Very little milk is being obtained at the kolkhozes Dzintars in Kuldigskiy, Molodaya Gvardiya in Kraslavskiy and Tsentiba in Liyepayskiy Rayons or at the sovkhovs Rudzaty in Preyl'skiy and Keytene in Ogrskiy Rayons.

Important Period Out on Farms

Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 6 Oct 82 p 3

[Article: "Important Period Out On the Farms"]

[Text] Ministry of Agriculture Summary Milk Yields for Third Ten Day Period in September (in kg)

Rayons	Overall Milk Yield in 1982, in % of 1981	Average Daily Milk Yield Per Cow	+ or - Compared To Last Year
Dobel'skiy	110	9.7	+0.9
Salduskiy	109	7.6	+0.4
Rezeknenskiy	109	7.0	+0.6
Tukumskiy	108	7.8	+0.5
Daugavpilsskiy	107	7.7	+0.5
Liyepayskiy	106	8.0	+0.5
Madonskiy	106	8.0	+0.4
Rizhskiy	105	10.4	+0.5
Tsesisskiy	105	7.5	+0.5
Yelgavskiy	104	9.0	+0.2
Bauskiy	104	8.5	+0.3
Ventspilsskiy	104	8.1	+0.3
Kuldigskiy	104	7.3	+0.2

Table Continued...

Rayons	Overall Milk Yield in 1982, in % of 1981	Average Daily Milk Yield Per Cow	+ or - Compared To Last Year
Yekabpilsskiy	103	7.2	-
Kraslavskiy	103	7.1	+0.2
Limbazhskiy	102	7.9	+0.3
Balvskiy	102	6.8	+0.1
Talsinskiy	101	8.4	+0.2
Valkskiy	101	8.1	-
Preyl'skiy	101	7.8	-
Valmiyerskiy	100	8.7	-
Stuchkinskiy	100	7.8	-
Ogrskiy	100	7.7	-
Gulbenskiy	99	7.6	0.1
Aluksnenskiy	99	7.4	-
Ludzenskiy	99	5.9	-
Average for the republic	104	7.9	+0.3

During the last 10-days in September the republic's livestock breeders worked better than they did during the same period last year. The majority of the rayons achieved an increase in the production of milk. The greatest success was achieved by the masters of machine milking in Dobel'skiy Rayon; they realized the highest increase compared to the 1981 level. Fine work was carried out on the farms in Saldusskiy, Rezeknenskiy and Tukumskiy Rayons.

During the final 10-day period in September, the livestock breeders at the Tervete Kolkhoz in Dobel'skiy Rayon obtained more than 14 kg of milk from each cow and this was 1 kg more than the amount obtained by this same period last year. At the Yaunpils Animal Husbandry Experimental Station in Tukumskiy Rayon -- 15 kg. Many farms succeeded in obtaining from 11.6 to 14.6 kg of milk per cow.

At the present time, the leading workers are skilfully organizing the feeding of the livestock. The grass out on the pastures is not the same as that which was there during the summer and thus the milking herd is being provided with additional fodder from late forage crops and also the haulm of root crops.

In those areas where an additional feeding for the cows has not been organized, sharp reductions in the milk yields are being noted. The average daily productivity during the third 10-day period decreased by 0.6-0.8 kg on farms in Luszenskiy, Aluksnenskiy, Preyl'skiy, Kraslavskiy, Daugavpilsskiy Rayons. At the Kurzeme Kolkhoz in Liyepayskiy Rayon the milk yield decreased by 1.9 kg and at the Liyesma Kolkhoz in Daugavpilsskiy Rayon -- by 1.5 kg.

The conversion of the livestock over to the indoor maintenance system is commencing. This is an important period for animal husbandry operations. The livestock must be provided with winter rations and these rations gradually increased. The farm leaders and specialists are confronted with the task of correctly organizing the work of the animal husbandry personnel during the transitional period.

Autumn on Dairy Farms

Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 3 Nov 82 p 3

[Article: "Autumn on the Dairy Farms"]

[Text] Ministry of Agriculture Summary of Milk Yields for Third Ten Day Period in October (in kg)

Rayons	Overall Milk Yield in 1982, in % of 1981	Average Daily Milk Yield Per Cow	+ or - Compared To Last Year
Kuldigskiy	115	5.4	+0.6
Tukumskiy	112	6.2	+0.7
Rezeknenskiy	111	4.9	+0.4
Limbazhskiy	110	5.9	+0.6
Saldusskiy	110	5.7	+0.4
Rizhskiy	108	9.5	+0.7
Liyepayskiy	108	6.0	+0.3
Talsinskiy	107	6.7	+0.5
Ogrskiy	107	6.0	+0.3
Dobel'skiy	106	7.8	+0.4
Ventspilsskiy	106	6.2	+0.4
Tsesisskiy	106	5.5	+0.5
Bauskiy	103	6.6	+0.3
Madonskiy	103	5.9	+0.1
Yekabpilsskiy	102	5.6	-
Daugavpilsskiy	102	5.4	+0.1
Kraslavskiy	102	5.1	+0.1
Balvskiy	101	4.7	-
Yelgavskiy	100	7.5	-
Valkskiy	100	6.3	-
Preyl'skiy	99	5.8	-0.1
Valmiyerskiy	98	7.0	-0.1
Stuchkinskiy	97	5.7	-0.2
Gulbenskiy	95	5.5	-0.3
Aluksnenskiy	91	4.9	-0.5
Ludzenskiy	91	3.8	-0.2
Average for the republic	104	6.0	+0.2

The livestock wintering period is a very important one on the farms. At the present time, many cows are steamed up and the productivity of the dairy herd is decreasing. During the third 10-days in October and compared to the previous one, the daily milk yield per cow decreased by an average of 0.7 kg. In particular, these yields dropped sharply -- by 900 grams -- in Aluksnenskiy, Balvskiy and Liyepayskiy Rayons.

The milk yields were unjustifiably low at the Kursishi Kolkhoz in Saldusskiy Rayon, the Skuyene Sovkhoz in Tsesisskiy Rayon and at the Sarkanays Strelniyeks in Rizhskiy Rayon. At the present time, the milk yields per cow here are on the

average 1.1-1.3 kg less than what they were 10 days ago. The productivity of the herd is very low at the Pasiyene Sovkhoz in Ludzenskiy Rayon and at the Gaylumi Sovkhoz in Rezeknenskiy Rayon -- less than 3 kg of milk per cow daily.

The experience of leading livestock breeders reveals that the productivity of the milking herd can be rather high during the indoor maintenance period. At the Tervete Kolkhoz in Dobel'skiy Rayon 13.3 kg of milk are presently being obtained per cow and at the Spars Kolkhoz in Gulbenskiy Rayon and the Yaunpils Animal Husbandry Experimental Station in Tukumskiy Rayon -- 13.2 kg. The daily milk yields on farms of the Yaunays Komunars Kolkhoz in Salduskiy Rayon, the Lielplatonskaya Animal Husbandry Experimental Station in Yelgavskiy Rayon and at the Sigulda Scientific-Experimental Farm in Rihzskiy Rayon exceed 11 kg. The highest daily milk yields are being obtained from a group of cows being tended by Valentina Sidorova at the Krasnyy Oktyabr' Kolkhoz in Preyl'skiy Rayon -- 23 kg per cow. The yields being obtained by Elza Mitrike at the Adazhi Kolkhoz in Rihzskiy Rayon are only 2 kg less.

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CONSUMER GOODS PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

QUANTITY, QUALITY OF SOVIET BREAD UNDER FIRE

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Jan 83 p 3

[Article by V. Sukhachevskiy in the column "Economics": "Bread on the Table"]

[Text] Uncle Vanya Serpilin, a baker, was the foremost person in the settlement. The taste of the bread baked by him is remembered to this day. Was it really better than the smooth and uniform long loaves which are being turned out now by automated and highly mechanized enterprises? Or are these just deceptive effects of bygone habits? It seems to me that one cannot insist here on something synonymous. Time, undoubtedly, leaves its mark on tastes and habits. But on the other hand even specialists are unanimous in saying that today's bread has lost many of the qualities which made the Russian round loaf famous since olden days. Let us try and examine the matter here.

First of all, we should probably say something about the important change in the functional purpose of bread. For a long period of time it had been the basic food for millions of people. If there was bread at home then everything was well. Bread was washed down with kvass and milk, and cabbage soup was served at the table as an addition to the main product. A working man used to eat up to 2 kg of bread a day. The purpose of bread has changed fundamentally now. From a principal food product it has changed to a supplementary one. The nutrition ration is now completely different compared to dozens of years ago.

And so the attitude toward bread has changed radically. But can its "minor importance" in our ration justify the decline in consumer qualities of the product? Certainly not. However, readers have been reporting precisely such facts to the editorial office. "I am a resident of Irkutsk," Anatoliy Yakovlevich Ivanov writes to us, "the bread that is baked here is very bad, it is like brick, as the saying goes--both in shape and content. I remember difficult times and hunger, but the bread was delicious! One would not throw a slice of it away." Civil war veteran V. I. Kuznetsov from Tashkent completely supports this thought: "The bread in Tashkent is often unleavened and tasteless and loaves lack lightness, are solid as rubber and not baked through. This is the kind of bread that is being used as waste..."

There are many similar letters. Undoubtedly, bread must be taken care of and sacred attitude toward it must be instilled in people. There can be no two

opinions about this as there can be no justification for those who throw away slices of bread into a garbage chute after just nibbling on it or feeding loaves to livestock. But here is what makes one wonder. In a published interview one of the food industry's supervisors complains: "There was once a saying that 'When There is Bread on the Table, the Table is Like an Altar.' There is no altar-like place on the table for bread now, it somehow finds itself on the side. The former respect for bread must be returned, it must be regarded with greater consideration. Many regard rolls as if they are grown on the trees. They cannot appreciate bread if they do not know exactly how this wonder appeared on their table and what labor is involved in obtaining it."

Fine words. But if one is called upon to regard bread as a wonder of man's skill, then it must be a wonder and not a product which we often see on store shelves. A large bunch of grapes lies in a bowl, shining under the winter sun that breaks through the window. It is amber-colored and extraordinary delicious. A wonder? It certainly is a wonder! This appraisal is not dictated nor imposed from without, it reflects a natural regard of man's soul toward this wonderful gift of the land. Lying beside it on the table is a plain, flattened and tasteless long loaf which was just brought in from the baker's. One cannot refer to it as a wonder.

The strongest campaign is a campaign armed with facts. But they, unfortunately, are sometimes "negative." I was informed by T. M. Matyusheva, deputy chief of the Cereal Products Trade Department of the USSR Ministry of Trade, that the trade inspectorate in checking the quality of bread and flour products at enterprises of the USSR Ministry of the Food Industry has been rejecting at least 2 percent of the overall volume of finished products. This is 420,000 tons--not a small amount even on our scale. Moreover, during selective inspections in stores up to 7 percent more bread is judged to be unsuitable for marketing.

During the early part of this year, the Moscow Main Administration of State Quality of Goods and Trade Inspectorate [Gostorginspektsiya] has checked the quality of products at some mechanized bakeries. Out of the 17 sample products presented for inspection, 7 or 39 percent were found to be irregular. This was not a mere coincidence. Last year, the mechanized bakery imeni Zotov was inspected six times by representatives of the Main Administration of State Quality of Goods and Trade Inspectorate and each time some of its products were not allowed to be delivered to the trade network because they were irregular. Losses are extensive even according to rough estimates. But if one adds to them the wasted labor of bakers, the idling in essence of equipment and transportation and the incalculable moral detriment (try and teach the people to regard the rejected products as a wonder!), then the figure becomes astronomical.

Thus, as we can see, the law of dialectics works here with utmost precision--the transition of quality into quantity. In this instance, poor quality into a reduced quantity. What is the matter? Did we forget how to bake bread? Have we ran out of craftsmen? It appears that the situation is much more complex. A large tangle of problems has entwined around the ancient art of bread baking. Let us make an attempt to untangle them.

It is known that bread is baked from flour. The flour is made from grain. For many years now we have been getting grain with less gluten than required. It is also quite clear that the soil is not boundless in its generosity. A strong industry

of fertility has been created in the country, an entire branch of science has been formed. Yet, the formerly famous varieties of indigenous Russian hard and strong wheat, which was used in baking excellent bread and making delicious macaroni goods, have apparently sunk into oblivion. Corrections in the all-union state standard for bread have been in force for many years. These corrections require in particular an increased water content in dough. As a result, the bread dries out much faster and becomes prematurely stale. It develops that by maintaining the volume of production at the planned level, we deliberately turn out defective goods which are being thrown away. To quote Lenin, would it not be more profitable and better to produce less but of better quality? Less exactly by the amount that is being rejected or fed to livestock.

This is just one part of the matter. There is also another one. It applies to baking bread and rolls and buns of reduced weight. Here what happens: a man buys a large long loaf or a whole loaf of bread--half of it is used as it is supposed to be, the rest very often becomes stale, dries out and is thrown away. If small long loaves, smaller whole loaves and a large variety of rolls were always available, then the problem would lose its edge to a considerable degree. Some regard this question as farfetched: In any case, they say, one can ask the salesman to cut the product and buy only part of it. One can hardly agree with such reasoning. First of all, the part that has been cut off and left in the store will also dry out. And secondly, why should one load a salesman so unreasonably?

I was informed in the USSR Ministry of the Food Industry that currently approximately 60 percent of the overall volume of bread and flour goods are produced in small size. There is an apparent improvement in this matter. The reorganization could be made much faster, but it seems to me that this is hampered by one important circumstance. I have heard it said at the headquarters of the sector that production of "small size" bread is unprofitable.

The opinion of those standing at the helm of the sector is also supported by many workers who are directly involved in the production of bread. Two years ago, for example, production of smaller size goods was organized in Volgograd. It was convenient and economical for customers. But it was very unprofitable for the enterprise. Equipment productivity at the mechanized bakery fell more than 10 percent when it baked 700-gram loaves instead of the 800-gram ones. All this is easily explained: the products of smaller size occupy more space, although they remain in the oven the same length of time as products of larger size. The capacity of motor vehicles, which deliver bread to the stores, was also reduced.

Of course, this situation cannot be ignored. Nevertheless, the question, in our opinion, has only one meaning: if there is a demand for goods of smaller size, then this demand must be satisfied. As regards the losses, they are less than those we suffer when bread is thrown away or fed to livestock. One way or another, workers of the sector must be guided by the following interrelated demands: satisfy the demands of the population to the maximum, and on the other hand, manage economically and diligently.

Let us continue unwinding the tangle of problems. At present, when the baking industry has been transformed into a highly developed sector of the national

economy with large mechanized and automated production facilities, lagging of individual units in the technological chain is felt especially keenly. Let us take transportation of flour as an example. Almost 20 years ago the USSR Ministry of Heavy and Transport Machine Building was assigned to ensure the requirements for railway flour-hauling cars. So what happened? We still do not have such cars. There is also a shortage of special flour-hauling motor vehicles. Nearly half of all flour is hauled in sacks. As a result, there are extensive losses, overexpendi of labor and reduced quality of flour.

There is a shortage of equipment for bulk storage of flour in bins. The USSR Ministry of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances ensures only 60-65 percent of the sector's needs in dough make-up units, dough kneaders, dough dividers and dough forming machines. The shortage of this and some other equipment has led to excessively intensive operation of available machines, which has adversely affected their correct operation and the quality of production.

Technical support of mechanized bakeries, which are a part of the consumers' cooperatives system, is even worse. Yelena Pavlovna Mayorova, chief of the Baking Industry Administration of the Central Union of Consumers' Cooperatives, sighed bitterly when I started talking to her about this.

There are funds but only 15 to 75 percent of equipment is allocated against them. There is a shortage of automatic flour meters and small capacity ovens. A total of 150 of them are needed annually, but the Ministry of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances supplies only one third of this. This happens despite the fact that we have 9,600 enterprises, which serve 200,000 stores --we provide more than one third of the all-union bread production. It is time to change this type of attitude toward this important sector.

Ye. Mayorova's last words made me look at the problem somewhat differently. Certainly very much is being said and written about the extraordinarily responsible attitude toward bread. Very much is also being done in order to raise a good harvest and to collect it on time and without losses. But afterward, on the way to the mill and then to the mechanized bakery, the red heat of passion appears to diminish and practical activities acquire a somewhat indefinite character. We have already cited some arguments in this respect. There are more. The editorial mail contains letters which say that some populated places have a shortage of bread and that there are irregularities in its delivery to stores. Anatoliy Sergeyevich Grishin, deputy chief of the Main Administration of Baking, Macaroni and Yeast Industry of the USSR Ministry of the Food Industry, has said categorically that there are no and could not be any objective reasons for such instances. And if there are, then local organizations and their sluggishness, indifference and bureacratism are to blame. However, one comes across such traits not only locally. For example, the USSR Ministry of Construction has been constructing a mechanized bakery in Tambov for the past 4 years and the Ministry of Construction in the Far East and Transbaykal Regions has been constructing similar enterprises in Chita for the past 5 years and in Magadan for the past 8 years. According to state norms, this work should have been completed in 24 months.

Let us now return to the question that we asked at the beginning of our conversation: Have we or have we not ran out of master bakers in Russia?

Not yet, but we are heading in that direction--the response of baking industry supervisors of the USSR Ministry of the Food Industry and the Central Union of Consumers' Cooperatives can be roughly formulated this way in a concentrated manner. The important sector of the national economy, which as no other is responsible for meeting the people's demands for food products, is getting unrestrainably old. The personnel problem has acquired a paramount significance here. Young people decline to go to mechanized bakeries.

This cannot but draw attention. We refer to metal as the bread of industry, and by using this definition we stress its highest value. We have raised the professions of steelmaker, blast furnaceman and metal roller to an honorable level, which is just and well-deserved. But those who produce not a symbolic but veritable, real bread cannot boast of such attitude toward them.

On the whole, one of the oldest and noblest professions, the profession of a baker has become an unprofitable, unpopular and unpretentious ones in our time. This is a result of the corresponding regard for the industry. In its turn, the consequence of such attitude was that bread has lost its "place at the altar." Major losses, both economic and moral ones, begin here...

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CONSUMER GOODS PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

RETURNABLE BOTTLES 'FLOOD' INDUSTRY

Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 26 Oct 82 p 2

[Article by V. Korchagina: "'Surplus' Bottles"]

[Text] Many people have probably noted that the most ordinary bottles have the curious property of causing unpleasantness for those who happen to have them. Quite a bit has been said about the troubles of individuals who want to turn in empty glass containers, articles have even been regularly printed in the newspapers, and there has been no shortage of letters to the editors about it.

But why, exactly? The answer would seem to be clear--the glass container collection stations are operating badly. But let us not draw hasty conclusions. Let us start by listening to those to whom our reproaches are usually addressed.

"We would be glad to operate better," M. Zaperetskaya, receiving clerk for glass containers at Station No 12, writes to the editors. "But we can't manage it. There is a perpetual shortage of crates, and the containers which have been collected are not hauled away on time."

"The enterprises making beverages have a duty to see that all containers are hauled away on time," explains E. Tomashevskaya, chief of the department for trade in foodstuffs of the Riga local market administration, "but they do not do it. Moreover, there are cases when our trucks make the rounds of the city in an attempt to 'deal with' the empty bottles--the enterprises refuse to accept them."

"We haul away everything set down in the plan," objects L. Alekseyeva, chief of the department for transport and sales of the republic's ministry of food industry. "Take a look at our plant: the grounds are crammed with empty containers. We are simply forced to refuse the empty bottles."

This is one reason and the main reason for all the troubles--the superfluous bottles, that is, bottles not subject to mandatory return to the enterprises, referred to as "overbottles." There are a great many of them. So many that the collection stations are swamped. And the trade sector turns out to be the owner of the "merchandise," which is not such a simple matter to sell. But it is not easy for industry either: lacking equipped warehouses, the enterprises

are simply not able to maintain the entire stock of bottles in packed and in good condition. So there are inevitable losses.

But one should not suppose that the "overbottles" are some new phenomenon hitherto unknown to managers in the economy. However paradoxical it might sound, the acuteness of the problem has been caused precisely by the fact that the trade sector has improved its operation and the network of collection stations has expanded.

The difficulties caused by shortcomings in organization of the collection of glass containers, well known to inhabitants of practically any rayon in the republic, are nevertheless felt most acutely in Riga. Last year 115 million bottles were collected here from the public. About 30 million of them were "overbottles." Where did they come from?

Beverages come to the city in large quantities from other republics, and deliveries of imported wines and juices are increasing. Pharmacies alone sell about 1 million bottles of mineral water every year. The stores and lunch counters of DorURS [Road Administration of Worker Supply] and of Latdorrestoran, and other organizations sell beverages. Bottles are carried to Riga from nearby cities and settlements where there are no collection stations or not enough of them. Is there any reason to be surprised at the number of bottles coming into glass container stations is growing steadily. Nevertheless, as we are told by the specialists of the ministry of food industry, the need of the plants for "overbottles," which are used mainly to replenish losses, does not exceed 20 million.

Yet there was a time when enterprises were feverish because of the shortage of containers. Now the situation is changing radically: the trade sector is able to guarantee 100-percent return of containers for reuse. Taking this into account, this year and next year, 1983, the ministry of food industry has not ordered a single 0.5- or 0.33-liter bottle, counting entirely on returnable containers. It is an occasion to rejoice, we have finally learned to expend the available resources economically.

Assuming that we know what those resources are? Has anyone calculated them? That is the point, that up until recently no one was making computations. Several ministries and departments are involved all at once in glass containers in one way or another. At first glance their functions are rather clearly delineated: some collect the containers, others haul them away, and still others use them. But, as often happens when there are many bosses, the common goal--ensuring maximum return and use of glass containers--turns out to be difficult to attain because of stratagems arising out of narrow departmental interests.

Four years ago, when the Riga depot "Steklotara" (Glass Containers) was created, it was assumed that this organization would be able to solve the problem of collective empty glassware, which had long been a painful one. The hopes were not justified. Now yet another attempt is being made to solve one and the same problem. The ministry of food industry has been given the responsibility of drawing up an annual balance of glass bottles. It would seem that

now everything would come into place: the available resources would be accurately counted, and there would not be any difficulty in disposing of those resources astutely.

Unfortunately, there is little basis as yet for optimism.

"Our job is to collect the available containers from the public. But we are not required to store them, turning the collection stations into warehouses," say the people in the trade ministry, "let industry take care of that."

"But why would we accept more containers than is required for production? The trade sector must deal with hauling away the 'extra' bottles outside the republic." This is the point of view of people in the ministry of food industry.

And as long as the ministries are squabbling, still not finding a common language, the "overbottles" are piling up. At the present time in Riga's collection station there are 800,000 bottles in nonstandard containers: bags, cardboard boxes and wooden crates, lying around like a deadweight. Because of this a number of stations have actually stopped accepting bottles.

There is no dispute that much has been done in the republic and is now being done to organize unhindered acceptance of glass containers from the public. In this 5-year period alone an additional 12 new collection stations are being opened in Riga, 6 of them this year, and 40 are being opened in rural localities. A warehouse with a railroad siding will be built to ship out the superfluous returnable containers outside the republic. Plants manufacturing beverages will have accumulation warehouses to build up the necessary seasonal stocks of bottles.

These are all plans for the future. Time will tell how fully they will be realized. But at the moment, to be frank, the situation is not encouraging: when you buy beverages in a store, you risk getting an "overbottle." That very bottle which is superfluous.

7045

CSO: 1827/26

CONSUMER GOODS PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

QUALITY OF WASHING MACHINES DISCUSSED

Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 2 Oct 82 p 2

[Article by V. Belyayev, TASS columnist: "The State Standard on the Quality of Washing Machines"]

[Text] The validity of the technical specifications on the household washing machines "Donbass," "Volzhanka," "Kama-5" and "Kama-7," "Simbirka" and "Belka-4" manufactured by enterprises in Zhdanov, Volgograd, Sarapul, Ulyanovsk and Ulan-Ude, is limited to January 1983. This means that at the beginning of the coming year these washing machine models will become nonstandard. The state will pay half as much for this product or will not accept them for sale at all. This is the decision of the USSR State Committee for Standards, whose representatives made a spot check of the quality of manufacture of washing machines at 15 enterprises of Minlegpishchemash [Ministry of Machinebuilding for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances] and Minelektrotekhprom [Ministry of Electrical Equipment Industry].

Industry has been manufacturing three types of washing machines. These are the SMR, which has a hand-operated clothes wringer. They comprise the majority of the total volume of production--65 percent. Machines of the SMP type are semiautomatic. Their share in the total volume of production is 34 percent. And the SMA are automatic: the "Evrika-avtomat" and "Vyatka-avtomat-12" manufactured by the Moscow Projector Plant and the Kirov "Elektrobyt-pribor" Plant. Each of them has 12 washing programs. Alas, this kind of equipment can be operated only in houses whose wiring has a third wire, ground wire, as well as equipment to connect the machine to the water supply and sewer drain.

Among the economically advanced countries machines of the SMR type are manufactured only in Japan. Foreign manufacturers have long given up the two-tub semiautomatic machines except for the English firm "Hoover." But specialists of this firm have saved the machine from going out of balance in the spinning cycle; more precisely, its balancing is done automatically and does not require that the laundry be spaced out evenly or that the drum be completely filled. Foreign machines have one drum, which spins at a high speed, thereby achieving a high degree of removal of water from the laundry. The machines are able to wash in different cycles--between 8 and 16.

Our market's need for washing machines, as the trade sector reports, is rather high and shows a tendency toward further growth. It is noticeable that demand has grown considerably for this kind of equipment in rural localities. In short, it is the most favorable situation, one which is conducive to development of the production of household washing machines and to their improvement. These concerns have been made the responsibility of 24 associations and plants. The state inspectorate has in fact checked the quality of the product produced by 15 of them. Its report has been discussed in Gosstandart [State Committee for Standards], a discussion in which all the interested parties participated.

The state inspectorate has conducted checks of this kind before, and twice already their results have been discussed in Gosstandart. We cannot say that they have not had an impact toward improvement of the quality of household appliances. There has been a noticeable change in the product mix; new improved models have been put into production to replace those previously manufactured. Nevertheless, as noted by Gosstandart, the technical level of the principal washing machine models is still low; the machines are obsolete, and with respect to a number of technical-and-economic characteristics they fall substantially short of their foreign counterparts. In other words, even today it is yesterday that is being offered to consumers.

Complaints have been especially numerous concerning the workmanship of the washing machines, although many respected enterprises are among their manufacturers. In their main shops they successfully perform far more difficult tasks than manufacturing equipment for the household. Yet it is the products for the home, for the family, that they are manufacturing with defects.

The Moscow Plant imeni Vladimir Il'ich is a major manufacturer of washing machines. Many technical and organizational innovations have been introduced in its shop which make it possible to substantially raise production efficiency, and this also applies to the sections making washing machines. Nevertheless, experts of the state inspectorate have prohibited the plant from selling certain production lots of the machines. The reasons were sharp edges and burrs on the flange of the opening of the washing tub, the existence of longitudinal grooves with sharp edges on the inner surface of the tub and other defects. This kind of slovenliness in manufacturing is inherent in the products of a number of other plants: the Zhdanov "Elektrobytpryor," the Melitopol "Bytmash," the Sverdlovsk "Sverdmashpryor," and the Volgograd "Krasnaya Zarya."

In this case there is no need to point out other defects of washing machines and products delivered as components for them--electric motors, switches, time relays, starter buttons, nor rubber, plastics and wire. The check made by Gosstandart is called comprehensive precisely because its participants followed all the stages of creation of the washing machines, beginning with the planning and design and ending with operation of the finished products. Among the suppliers of low-quality components 25 enterprises were named from Tashkent, Frunze, Serpukhov, Vilnius, Zlatoust, Perm, Kursk, Yerevan, Ryazan, Voronezh, Novosibirsk and Kiev.

In an endeavor to reduce the economically unjustified diversity of models and sizes of machines, to increase the level of their standardization and on that basis to improve organization of repairs of household equipment Minlegpishchemash has drafted a sectorwide standard "Household Washing Machines. Parametric Series. Base Models. Basic Parameters and Sizes." The publication of this standard cannot but be welcomed. It promises that by at least 1985 the output of washing machines will be limited to 12 base models.

To be honest, even 12 is a great many. It is no accident that Gosstandart has proposed to Minlegpishchemash that it conduct an additional analysis of the optimality of the design features which have been adopted in developing the new models of the machines.

The trade sector, customers and the consumer service sector are interested in whether our plants will produce reliable, economical and standardized washing machines that meet the present-day requirements of the market. They probably will. But only Minlegpishchemash can give an accurate answer to this question as the head ministry for production of this type of product.

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CSO: 1827/73

CONSUMER GOODS PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

DIMITROV PLANT'S TECHNOLOGY, CADRE, DISCIPLINE EFFORTS DISCUSSED

[Editorial Report] Tbilisi KOMUNISTI in Georgian on 24 December 1982 devotes all of page 2 to a 4100-word text-and-pictures discussion of the Dimitrov Aviation Plant's efforts to boost output, improve quality, introduce new technology, enhance discipline, increase labor productivity, reduce cadre turnover and worktime losses, provide better working and living conditions, and contribute more to the food program. Various workers and officials of the plant are interviewed by O. Arobelidze and Sh. Amashukeli, including plant director Pantiko Tordia. The director goes into some detail on the plant's vigorous efforts to adopt scientific-technical advances achieved both by the plant's own personnel and by various research institutes and other outfits working on contract. Inter alia, he notes that the "level of digital-program machine tools" is not entirely satisfactory, and that new, more sophisticated equipment is to be installed. Quality control is quite good, in part thanks to rigorous standards applied within the plant, which after all initiated the slogan "Best in Sector and Republic!" More needs to be done to reduce the time that product items spend in transport and other processes auxiliary to the machining and assembly; a contract has been drawn up with a research institute to devise automated organization of the work using computers.

Labor discipline is a major focus, and party units as well as foremen and the precisely organized mentorship system all contribute their bit. In addition, "labor discipline violation prevention councils" have been created to deal with the problem. As for cadre retention, the plant has set up a number of commissions on various levels to deal with "dismissal/release [uvol'neniye] from work": their purpose includes that of dissuading workers from quitting.

The worker housing problem has been dealt with rather well, with ongoing construction of apartments and dormitories all the time. Child care and kindergarten facilities have been completed, even a secondary school for plant workers' children. The plant's food program is proceeding successfully on all fronts, with livestock and poultry, orchards, and vegetable operations providing a growing percentage of the plant's food service needs.

GEORGIAN FARM-INDUSTRY CO-OP EXPERIMENT DESCRIBED

[Editorial Report] Tbilisi KOMUNISTI in Georgian on 26 December 1982 page 2 carries Mayakovski Raykom First Secretary G. Nozadze's 1700-word article under the rubric "Implement the Decisions of the November Plenum," in which he sketches the area's efforts to boost agricultural and food production, improve conditions, and so on. One 300-word passage describes the rayon's interest in the Leningrad experience of getting agriculture together with industry on a co-op basis. Specifically, the Obcha Lenin Kolkhoz set up an auxiliary shop making circuit cables [skhematichnyye kabeli] for the Leningrad Krasnaya Zarya Scientific-Production Association, housed in a former winery facility that was virtually unused until now. Figures are cited on production, profits, and the fact that the operation employs local labor. It forms the base for an inter-farm enterprise with eight kolkhozes taking part, now employing 237 workers, of whom 99.9 percent are women (only authorized kolkhoz members are hired). The weaker farms in the area benefit greatly. In 1983 a new shop is to be built in the village of Dimi; it will employ 750. Thus, labor resources are put to work and migration is stemmed.

ABKHAZIAN PEPSI-COLA BOTTLING FACILITY COMPLETED

[Editorial Report] Tbilisi KOMUNISTI in Georgian on 26 December 1982 page 2 carries Abkhazian correspondent I. Gobechia's 600-word report on the completion of the Pepsi-Cola bottling facility in Babushari, Gulripshi Rayon. It has the capacity to produce well over 60 million bottles per year, 120,000 to 150,000 bottles per day. The facility is the first independent operation so specialized in the USSR; formerly, the product was produced in beer and soft-drink plants. Thanks to industrious and efficient building operations, construction was completed ahead of schedule. The product has already made its way to the customers, and soon company stores will be opened in Tbilisi, Kutaisi, Batumi, and other republic centers.

'AT-HOME' WORKERS IN GEORGIAN LOCAL INDUSTRY TO INCREASE

[Editorial Report] Tbilisi KOMUNISTI in Georgian on 28 December 1982 page 2 carries Sh. Amashukeli's 900-word article on the Local Industry Ministry's plans to expand the network of persons producing economic goods at home--especially souvenirs, household items, and other products in popular demand. Last year's production output from this subsector added up to 15 million rubles; conventional production facilities to house such endeavors would have taken 4.5 million to build. Mothers with small children, pensioners, and invalids benefit from this kind of employment. Folk crafts--some of them in danger of dying out otherwise--are revived and kept alive. Solani, the association which makes souvenirs, has been especially successful in this line. By the end of the five-year plan, 3200 persons will be so employed--double today's figure.

GEORGIAN FUR FARM LOSES PROFITS TO OUTSIDE BUYERS

[Editorial Report] Tbilisi KOMUNISTI in Georgian on 29 December 1982 page 4 carries Vakhtang Gorganeli's 1100-word account of his visit to the Bakuriani Fur Sovkhoz in Borzhomi Rayon. Even though the farm's fur pelts are in high demand, the sovkhaz has lost money steadily for years. After breeding, tending, and raising the animals at considerable expense, the farm then sells the pelts to a "receiving organization" outside the republic for only 85 to 95 rubles apiece. That organization, in turn, finishes the furs at a cost of 10 rubles apiece and then sells them for 350 to 400 rubles. The sovkhaz produces about 6,000 pelts a year, mainly fox and nutria. Last year it lost 236,000 rubles; this year that will decrease to about 190,000. A new director appointed in March 1982 has started to turn the farm around, however, and the collective has decided the sovkhaz can reorganize its operations, finish the furs itself, and sell them at 350-400 rubles apiece, thus becoming profitable at long last. Shevardnadze visited the sovkhaz "recently" and approved their initiative.

CSO: 1813/812

HOUSING AND PERSONAL SERVICES

UKRAINIAN SUPREME SOVIET MEETS ON HOUSING

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Oct 82 p 2

[Article by A. Dolenko, IZVESTIYA correspondent, Kiev: "Deputy Control: Meeting of the Commission for Housing, Municipal Economy and Consumer Services of the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet"]

[Text] I went to the meeting knowing how effective the control work of this commission is. Only in the last few years have they attentively studied and examined problems of public services and amenities of populated places, the organization of houses for consumer services and receiving centers at kolkhozes and sovkhozes, development of water supply for the population, the development of a system of quality control at consumer-service enterprises and the accomplishment of plan targets for the introduction of new equipment and mechanization of labor and housing in housing and consumer services.

The pointed, pertinent questions coming under the field of vision of the commission inevitably attract the attention of pertinent republic ministries and departments and executive committees of soviets of people's deputies and public organizations. Proposals made by deputies contribute to the development of housing and the municipal economy and consumer services.

The commission's subject of special concern is maintenance and safety of housing. The conclusions that it reached after studying, for example, the work of the UkSSR Ministry of Housing and Municipal Services on the observance of relevant legislation were turned over for study by the Presidium of the republic's Supreme Soviet. The Presidium adopted a special decree obliging the UkSSR Ministry of Housing and Municipal Services, ispolkoms of local soviets and ministries and departments in charge of housing to radically improve management of housing and municipal services and to increase the responsibility of the sector's personnel for timely implementation of measures relating to the solicitous care of housing.

"The Commission for Housing, Municipal Economy and Consumer Services," Deputy Chairman V. Shevchenko of the Presidium of the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet related on the eve of the meeting, "consists of 32 deputies. They include 15 workers and 6 kolkhoz farmers. There are also heads of enterprises and organizations, economic specialists and party and soviet personnel."

On 11 October, in accordance with the work plan the commission examined the question of the state of comprehensive personal services of workers at the industrial enterprises of Dnepropetrovsk Oblast. V. Mironov, the commission's chairman and ispolkom chairman of the Donetsk Oblast Soviet of People's Deputies, opened and conducted the meeting. He stated that there had been invited to the meeting V. Boyko, chairman of the Dnepropetrovsk Oblispolkom, V. Slinchenko, the UkSSR minister of personal services and deputy ministers--of UkSSR ferrous metallurgy N. Tarapurov, of UkSSR light industry--A. Dobryakov as well as responsible personnel of the republic Gosplan and the Ukrainian Trade Union Council.

The floor was granted for a report to Yu. Yevtushenko, the chairman of the commission's preparatory group. She worked for a long time as a grinder at the Kirovograd Plant of Tractor Hydraulic Equipment imeni XXV S"yezd KPSS. She successfully completed a VUZ. Recently the plant's communists made her deputy secretary of the enterprise's party committee.

"In the republic," the deputy said, "planned work is going on to bring personal services closer to the place of residence and work of a person, particularly on the development of personal services directly at industrial enterprises."

Thorough verification of the organization of comprehensive personal services for workers at industrial enterprises of Dnepropetrovsk Oblast carried out by the commission's preparatory group with the participation of deputies and specialists from Crimean, Kirovograd and Khmel'nitskiy Oblasts and personnel of the staff of the Presidium of the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet showed that the oblast has an effective form of personal services for workers directly at enterprises whose further development would contribute to the creation of additional conveniences for workers and to the reduction of time spent on obtaining the personal services.

At the same time, the organization of comprehensive personal services for workers at their place of work contains a number of significant deficiencies and defects. Many good decisions have been adopted in the oblast and much is being done in this direction. But control over their fulfillment is insufficiently organized. As a consequence of low performance discipline, the indicated measures were fulfilled by slightly more than one-third. There failed to go into operation a total area of 7,600 square meters of personal-service enterprises despite the fact that many decisions exist concerning this. The ispolkom of Dnepropetrovsk City Soviet, for example, in recent years promulgated about thirty of them aimed at the further development of personal services in the city. But up to the present time, 16 of the 24 planned service and work shops have failed to go into operation at industrial enterprises and 13 of 16 comprehensive receiving stations have not been opened. A similar picture in regard to the implementation of planned measures is to be found in Krivoy Rog, Dneprodzerzhinsk and other cities in the oblast. Due to this, workers of very many industrial enterprises in the oblast (85 percent of the total number) still cannot obtain needed personal services at their place of work.

Insufficient attention is being paid to the development of the service sphere at republic ministries and departments. Particularly unsatisfactory work

is being done with respect to the creation of a material-technical base for personal services at subordinate enterprises of the Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy and the Ministry of Light Industry of the republic. Local soviets of people's deputies and trade-union organizations should exert a greater influence on the state of affairs.

The commission's preparatory group believes that the oblast soviet of people's deputies, city soviets, trade-union organizations and heads of industrial enterprises in Dnepropetrovsk Oblast must direct greater attention in their work to providing comprehensive personal services for workers directly at their place of work and residence, intensify control over the fulfillment of decrees of directive organs and their own decisions and improve the use of existing reserves and opportunities for the creation of additional conveniences in services for workers, saving time in this way that people spend on household concerns.

Chairman of Dnepropetrovsk Oblispolkom V. Boyko speaks.

"As far back as the beginning of the past five-year plan," he says, "the ispolkom of the oblast soviet of people's deputies and the presidium of the oblast trade-union council through a joint decree on the development of a network of consumer services with funds of industrial enterprises completed concrete targets for construction of houses and combines for personal services and provision of quarters for service and work shops and receiving centers. The network of personal-service shops, work shops and receiving centers increased, raising the level of services for workers.

"But we still have many unsolved questions and deficiencies. And we are grateful to the preparatory group of the commission and to deputies who have attentively and skillfully found locally reserves for the further development of the sphere of personal services."

The speaker was asked many questions--on the practice of retention of cadres and cooperative use of funds of local soviets for the development of consumer services and dissemination of advanced methods. Deputy N. Gmyrya, a female worker from Zhdanov Net-Weaving Factory, asked the oblispolkom chairman to elucidate the following fact: four rayons of the oblast still do not have personal services combines. What is the reason for it? What is being done for them to be available everywhere and for them to work well everywhere?

V. Boyko's detailed self-critical answer and the words of V. Slinchenko, the minister of consumer services, who followed him, explained a great deal. The practice has still not been eliminated not only in Dnepropetrovsk but also in other oblasts of the republic wherein executive committees fail to allocate in newly constructed buildings space for the location of consumer services. In this connection the commission decided to send a special note on this question to oblast-soviet ispolkoms. A special note will also be sent to the republic Gosstroy to the effect that model plans of buildings being erected at new housing developments do not provide for space for the establishment of personal-service enterprises--laundries, service shops or receiving centers.

Deputies--A. Borulev, a docker-machine operaator at the Sevastopol fish port of Atlantika Production Association, V. Vedernikov, the chairman of Kharkov Gor-ispolkom, N. Yevina, an operator at Lisichansk Petroleum Refinery Plant, A. Kolbatikova, a rolling mill operator at Nikopol South Pipe Plant, N. Bondarenko, a streetcar operator for Dnepropetrovsk Streetcar and Trolleybus Administration, V. Svyatotskiy, second secretary of Lvov Obkom of the Communist Party of the Ukraine and others--made concrete proposals for improving the operation of consumer services and expanding the network of personal services and comprehensive receiving centers directly at enterprises and construction sites.

The commission decreed: to approve the proposals and comments on the discussed question described in the note of the preparatory group of the commission and to send the note to the ispolkom of Dnepropetrovsk Oblast Soviet of People's Deputies mentioned in the decree to ministries for an appropriate reaction and to ispolkoms of oblast, Kiev and Sevastopol city soviets of people's deputies for purposes of information.

A principled, businesslike discussion of the concrete question at the meeting of the commission of the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet helped locate new reserves and possibilities of further development of the service sphere and of bringing services directly to the individual.

7697

CSO: 1827/22

HOUSING AND PERSONAL SERVICES

TU SSR ESTATE INSURANCE LAWS DESCRIBED

Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 13 Oct 82 p 4

[Article by Main Administration of TuSSR State Insurance and Turkmen Agency for Trade Advertising: "Insurance of Domestic Property in the Interest of Every Family"]

[Text] The Soviet state is implementing a broad program for continuing development of the country's economy and raising of the people's living standard. With each year, the material position and housing and personal conditions of workers get better.

Among the measures contributing to the strengthening of the material position of workers, an important place is held by state insurance.

You have spent much labor and time in furnishing your apartment with modern furniture and acquiring handsome clothing, loved books, a new television set, dishes, a washing machine, rugs, a radiophonograph, refrigerator and other necessary household and personal items. Your apartment is cozy and comfortable.

But frequent cases are to be found of the unexpected destruction of or damage to household property, not excluding cases of theft of property. Your distress and material difficulties because of what happened would be considerably reduced if you had insured your property. State insurance would have paid you insurance compensation in the amount of the occurring loss within the limits of the insurance sum set by the contract.

On 1 July 1981, the new rules of voluntary insurance of domestic insurance went into effect. According to these rules, the insurance of household property is done against the event of its destruction or damage as the result of fire, explosion, flood, storm, hurricane, downpour, hail, collapse, landslide, emergence of subsoil water, flooding uncommon for the given locality, continuing rains or heavy snowfall, mud slides, being hit by lightning, earthquake, damage to the heating system, water or sewer pipes, penetration of water from neighboring buildings as well as cases of theft of property and its destruction or damage connected with the theft or attempt at theft. Insurance agreements are concluded for a period of 2 to 11 months or of 1 to 5 years inclusive.

The amount of insurance is determined on the basis of the wishes of the insurer, but it may not be higher than the value of the property (with account being taken of wear) on the basis of existing state retail prices. Insurance agreements up to 5,000 rubles are concluded without examination of the property and above 5,000 rubles--with its examination.

Annual insurance payments per 100 rubles of the amount of insurance, depending on the location and fire resistance of the dwelling are:

in stone structures with a fire-resistant roof in a city location--15 kopecks, in a rural location--20 kopecks;

in other structures in a city location--25 kopecks, in a rural location--40 kopecks.

Insurance payments may be made: in cash to the insurance agent (inspector) of the state insurance inspectorate on conclusion of the agreement; without cash through the accounting organization at the insurer's place of work on the basis of written instructions.

The insurance agreement goes into effect:

in the case of payment in cash--in 10 days;

in the case of cashless payment--on the day fixed by the enterprise, institution or organization where he works, the day when he gets his pay from which the insurance payment is transferred.

The effectiveness of the agreement terminates in as many years or months as it was concluded for, on the expiration of the day preceding the date the agreement went into effect.

When concluding an agreement for 3 or more years, the insurer is granted a discount of 10 percent of the calculated amount of payment. Persons insuring household property for not less than 3 consecutive years are granted a monthly preferential period for the conclusion of a new agreement. The new agreement is written up and the payments are calculated from the time of the termination of the operation of the preceding agreement. In this connection, if in this monthly period prior to the conclusion of a new agreement, an insurance incident occurs, insurance compensation is paid on the basis of the amount of insurance determined for the prior operative agreement. Continuity of insurance may be assured only with timely renewal of the agreement.

A more detailed acquaintanceship with the conditions of insurance may be acquired and an agreement may be concluded at the state insurance inspectorate or with the insurance agent handling the enterprise or organization where you work. The insurance agent may be invited to one's home.

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CSO: 1827/22

HOUSING AND PERSONAL SERVICES

BUILDER PUNISHED FOR UNAUTHORIZED CONSTRUCTION

Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA in Russian 22 Oct 82 p 2

[Article by A. Klenov, Kotovsk: "A House with a Secret"]

[Text] At times advanced methods are underestimated in construction work. Otherwise how can the fact be explained that a two-story house with a total area of more than 102 square meters erected on one of the streets of Kotovsk has been undeservedly classified as an ordinary project. Ordinary? More likely it is a demonstration model.

Well, everything in due order.

Construction materials, as we know, do not fall from heaven. They were delivered here without any interruption. Even if the receivers were associated with farms far from the needs of the given construction: the kolkhozes Pobeda and Drumul Leninist. But what miracles occurred in regard to reduction of the cost of construction. Let us say that 10 reinforced concrete slabs and 25,000 red bricks cost 2,851 rubles. But for this project they only cost 2,100 rubles. Because of another surprising innovation, drivers of the interfarm construction organization transported the construction materials on, so to say, a public basis, that is, free. Moreover, the operation of a truck crane and excavator also did not cost anything.

The struggle for maximum economy was conducted energetically in all directions. What in your opinion, for example, is the cost of 12 square meters of window units made at the association's workshops? 310 rubles? Correct. But for the said new construction project the accounting office quickly created a more acceptable price of 168 rubles. You see under what ideal conditions the house's walls were erected, the roof put up and inner improvements created. And here we shall disclose a secret--this is due to the concern of K. Paskal, chief of a sector of Kotovsk Interfarm Construction Organization. He doted on this construction project.

"For whom are you building this marvelous mansion?" people sometimes would ask simplistically.

"Well, how should I put it...." Paskal would reply meaningfully and then remain silent.

But finally he was obliged to speak. At a meeting of the rayon people's control committee, the question was discussed why sector chief K. Paskal three days after registration of the job was allocated at the rayon center a plot of land 0.06 hectare in size for the construction of a house for himself without application to management or the building committee of the interfarm organization. On this basis he was subsequently allotted a two-room apartment.

Of course, reference was also made to what crude violations of finance and economic discipline were involved in the construction of the "model-demonstration project."

The conclusions that followed were: the rayon committee removed K. Paskal from the position he occupied and required of him a monetary recovery of 200 rubles. G. Kalugar, the chairman of the interfarm construction organization, D. Kretsu, the chairman of Drumul Leninist Kolkhoz, and other officials who had abused their official positions were also punished.

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CSO: 1827/22

HOUSING AND PERSONAL SERVICES

NEW 1983 LAWS FOR ESTATE INSURANCE DISCUSSED

Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 12 Jan 83 p 4

[Article by I. Bartishvili "If You Insure Your Estate". Passages enclosed in slantlines appear in the original in italics.]

[Text] / As is well-known, state insurance is accountable to the workers' interests. It is charged with aiding them precisely when citizens experience various natural calamities. /

/ From one year to the next, state insurance becomes increasingly important in raising the Soviet people's material standard of living. /

Mandatory state insurance of citizens' estates is conducted under conditions stipulated by the USSR Statute of April 4, 1940 "On Mandatory Insurance According to Set Rates." Certain sections of the statute have become obsolete and are no longer adequate to contemporary requirements. For example, a discrepancy has arisen between the actual value of some insured buildings and their insurance coverage; the current rates for insurance premiums in a number of USSR republics do not correspond to the level on which compensation is paid out and it is necessary to abridge the enumeration of grounds for nonpayment of insurance compensation, especially where animals are concerned.

Recently, advantageous conditions for personal and estate insurance for workers have been introduced; there has been an increase in the responsibility of the State Committee for Insurance; premium rates have been lowered and there are new forms of insurance.

It is stipulated by new legislation, effective January 1, 1983, that it will be mandatory to insure with state insurance two types of citizens' personal property:

- buildings (dwellings, garden houses, vacation homes and farm buildings) and
- animals (large horned livestock after six months; horses and camels one year and more.

State insurance is not mandatory either for buildings in a state of disrepair that are not used for any economic purpose or houses belonging to citizens whose whereabouts are unknown.

Buildings are covered by mandatory state insurance against damage or destruction by fire, explosion, lightning, flood, earthquake, storm, hurricane, typhoon, cloudburst, hail, landslides, avalanches etc., eruption of underground waters, flash flood, rains of a duration unusual for the region in question and abundant snowfall as well as the failure of the heating, plumbing or drainage systems and also in cases in which the building has had to be destroyed or removed to another site to stop the spread of fire or in case of a sudden threat by a natural calamity.

It is stipulated, in order to correlate insurance compensation with actual damage in case of personal injury or complete destruction of buildings, effective January 1, 1983, mandatory state insurance for buildings will be carried at 40% of their market value (taking depreciation into account), calculated on the basis of the current market price for building materials and rates for their shipment as well as construction wages (instead of 1939 wholesale prices).

Formulating estimated norms to appraise buildings in rural locations is the responsibility of the departments for state insurance and in the cities, of communal economic organs.

The appraisal of buildings requires the participation of the insurer or a member of his family who is of age, and in addition of a representative of the rural or settlement Soviet of People's Deputies and is confirmed by the competent ispolkom. Reappraisal is carried out at least once in five years.

Because insurance premiums increase as mandatory insurance coverage increases, a drop in rates by an average of 50% is planned.

In the mandatory insuring of buildings, the coverage sum for one farm has been increased 127% to 2012 rubles (instead of 887 rubles). The compensation paid out to individual citizens for the damage or destruction of buildings has also increased.

Uniform premium rates for mandatory state insurance of estates have been set. The following premiums are paid annually on an insurance policy for 100 rubles: in rural areas 35 kopecks; in urban areas 30 kopecks. Insurance premiums for one farm average 6 rubles 56 kopecks instead of 5 rubles 99 kopecks.

The new mandatory-insurance conditions have reversed a number of limitations on the compensation to citizens for destruction or damage to estates. The only case in which insurance compensation will not be paid is that of destruction or damage of a structure resulting from the intentional actions of the insurer or a family member who has reached his majority.

Essential changes have also been made in the conditions for insuring animals belonging to citizens. Insurance compensation will be paid in all cases of animal deaths from illness, accident, and natural calamities as well as obligatory slaughter.

The underwritten amount is set by the USSR republics' Councils of Ministers in terms of state purchase prices for every species and age group of animals at 40% of their average price. The average rates of insurance payment have been established at 100 rubles of the underwritten amount (for the GSSR); this amounts to 6 rubles for large horned livestock and 8 rubles for horses.

With the goal of compensating more completely the losses caused by livestock murrain, in addition to mandatory insurance, voluntary insurance on animals has been introduced (for swine - starting at age 6 months; for sheep and goats, mules and donkeys - starting at the age of 1 year). Losses are compensated for up to 80% of their value, depending on the average weight and the state-regulated purchase prices. For every 100 rubles of the underwritten amount, premiums have been established: for large horned livestock - 7 rubles, for mules and donkeys - 9 rubles, for swine - 9 rubles and for sheep and goats - 7 rubles.

Insurers must make premium payments annually, calculated according to established rates. An unpaid premium is considered in arrears at the expiration of the established date; it is collected on the basis of an additional fine at the rate of 1% of the sum in arrears for each day after the payment date.

According to the new conditions of mandatory state insurance for citizens' property, ispolkoms of rayons and city settlement and rural Soviets of Peoples' Deputies may completely or partially relieve from paying insurance premiums those individual insurers who experience temporary financial difficulties; inspection is obligated to present written findings for each application.

The new conditions of mandatory estate insurance for citizens will make possible the provision of a better balance between social and private interests.

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UDC 637.1+637.5"71"(47+57)

MILK AND MEAT INDUSTRY MINISTER ON FOOD PROGRAM GOALS

Moscow MOLOCHNAYA PROMYSHLENNOST' in Russian No 12, Dec 82 pp 1-6

[Article by S. F. Antonov, USSR minister of meat and dairy industry: "The Meat and Dairy Industry at the 60th Anniversary of the Formation of the USSR"]

[Excerpt] The taking of steps to carry out party agrarian policy based on the rise in the efficiency of the country's economy made it possible to significantly increase the production of agricultural output. In the time since the March 1965 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee gross meat production (slaughter weight) rose from 10 million to 15.2 million tons (1981) while milk production increased from 72.6 million to 88.5 million tons. In the same time state purchases of livestock rose from 9.3 million to 16.1 million tons and state purchases of milk increased from 38.7 million to 55.6 million tons.

To insure timely processing of livestock and milk, 9.9 billion rubles was invested for development of the production and technical base of the meat and dairy industry in 1966-1981. This was 2.7 times more than in the preceding 15 years. More than 1,460 enterprises were built and put into operation, including more than 170 meat combines, 75 meat processing enterprises, 440 city dairy plants, 230 cheese making plants, 165 dry nonfat milk plants and shops, and various other facilities; more than 1,500 existing enterprises were expanded and rebuilt.

About 17,000 new flow-mechanized and automated lines, automatic devices, aggregate units, and other pieces of highly productive equipment have been installed at enterprises of the sector. This has made it possible to switch meat combines to conveyor livestock processing with vertical blood removal, carcass centering, and butchering and to mechanize and automate the production of edible fats, sausage goods, semifinished meat products, "pel'meni," dairy products, feeds of animal origin, and the like. Automated control systems for industrial processes, enterprises, associations, and the Union republic meat and dairy industries are being introduced.

As a result of the construction of new and reconstruction of existing enterprises and stocking them with up-to-date equipment the value of fixed productive capital rose 3.5 times in 1965-1981, while the output-labor ratio rose 2.7 times and labor productivity went up 1.4 times.

Growth in state purchases of livestock, poultry, and milk and consolidation of the material-technical base of the meat and dairy industry made it possible after the March 1965 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee to increase the industrial production of meat and dairy products, as shown by the following figures (in tons, except for canned goods which are in standard cans):

Products	1964	1981	1981/1964(%)
Meat	3,773,000	7,719,000	204.6
Sausage Goods	1,407,000	2,847,000	202.3
Canned Meats	345 million	636 million	184.3
Whole Milk Products	10,247,000	25,117,000	245.1
Cream Butter	839,000	1,208,000	144.0
Cheeses	263,000	653,000	248.1
Canned Dairy Products	616 million	1,280 million	207.7

A great deal of work is being done in the sector to conserve meat and milk resources by improving technological processes, increasing deliveries of refrigerated meat to trade organizations, and using category No 2 subproducts and edible blood of slaughtered animals for food purposes. Industrial production of whole milk substitutes to nourish young agricultural animals has been incorporated.

In addition to comprehensive processing of raw materials and enlarging capacities for the production of meat and dairy products steps are being taken toward further improvement of quality and broadening the assortment with a required condition that taste and nutritional qualities rise.

The industry incorporated new types of sausage goods, semifinished products, canned meat and dairy products, butters, cheeses, dietary and children's foods, medical preparations made from the endocrine raw material of slaughtered animals, and feed from the by-products of livestock processing that are not suitable for human consumption.

New sectors emerged in the 1970's to produce quick-frozen ready-to-serve meat dishes, dry quick-soluble and condensed sterilized milk without sugar, dry milk mixtures for young children, whole milk substitutes for nourishing young agricultural animals, articles made from feathers and down, and polymer packaging materials.

The dry milk mixes "Malyutka," "Malysh," "Detolakt," "Biolakt," "Ladushka," and "Vitalakt" and "enpity" [possibly "energy drinks"], and the canned poultry meat brand "Kroshka," "Ptenchik," and "Dutuz" are being produced for children's diets. In 1982 a specialized plant for production of canned meats for children went into operation in Tikhoretsk. Dairy industry enterprises in a number of cities have built specialized shops to produce liquid and creamy

dairy products for children under the age of one year such as children's kefir and cottage cheese, the acidophilous product "Biolakt," and "Vitalakt" simulated mother's milk.

At the present time the meat industry produces about 700 different types of articles and the dairy industry produces more than 500.

Thanks to implementation of the decisions of the March 1965 and later Plenums of the CPSU Central Committee, despite the difficulty caused by unfavorable weather conditions in recent years and despite the increase in population of 35 million since 1965, the level of food consumption has risen significantly. Consumption of meat and meat products converted to meat per capita has risen 41 percent and consumption of milk and dairy products converted to milk has increased 25 percent. But as observed at the 26th CPSU Congress, the higher demands of the population for food are not being fully met.

In conformity with the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress, the USSR Food Program for the period until 1990 was worked out and approved by the May 1982 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. The Food Program foreordains a new, fundamental turning point in raising agriculture and its associated processing sectors. In view of its nature and scale the Food Program is expected to accelerate progress in the entire national economy, insure stable supply of all types of food to the population in the shortest possible time, and significantly improve the diet of Soviet people by incorporating more valuable foods, including meat and milk.

The Food Program envisions a high rate of growth in agricultural production, specifically in animal husbandry where the challenge has been posed of raising average annual production in the 11th Five-Year Plan to 17-17.5 million tons (slaughter weight) for meat and 97-99 million tons for milk; goals in the 12th five-year plan will be 20-20.5 million tons for meat and 104-106 million tons for milk.

The meat and dairy industry has been given the task of producing 12.1 million tons of meat from raw material in state resources in 1990; this is 56.4 percent more than in 1980. Corresponding figures for sausage goods are 3.4 million tons (18.5 percent), for animal fat — 1.6 million tons (24.6 percent), for whole milk products — 31.3 million tons (25.8 percent), fat cheese — 1 million tons (57.8 percent), canned milk products — 2,250 million standard cans (71.2 percent), and canned meat products — 1,360 million standard cans (210 percent).

The degree of utilization of products obtained from livestock processing, meat, and milk is to be raised significantly on the basis of no-waste technology. Production of nonfat milk and buttermilk will be increased to 22.5 million tons by 1985 and 33.1 million tons by 1990, while production of whey will rise to 7.9 and 15.4 million tons respectively. More whey will be used in pastry and confectionary production and in making macaroni goods. In addition to enriching the products with valuable whey proteins this will make it possible to achieve a significant savings of flour (one ton of whey used in baking bread saves 40 kilograms of flour).

The Food Program contemplates increasing the production of whole milk substitutes used to nourish young livestock to 381,000 tons in 1985 and 800,000-850,000 tons by the end of the 12th Five-Year Plan. At the present time agriculture uses more than 7 million tons of whole milk each year to nourish young cattle and pigs. A significant part of this milk (up to 5 million tons) can be freed by using full-value substitutes. It could then be used to produce cream butter, cheese, and other products.

The meat sector will make greater use of the blood of slaughtered animals and category No 2 subproducts for food purposes.

Special attention will be devoted to improving the quality and assortment of products produced by enterprises of the ministry and increasing the production of dietary and children's food products based on meat and milk, shaped and packaged goods, quick-frozen ready-to-use and semiprepared side dishes, and various semifinished products.

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CONSUMPTION TRENDS AND POLICIES

GOSPLAN OFFICIAL ON BSSR LIGHT INDUSTRY

Minsk PROMYSHLENNOST' BELORUSSII in Russian No 1, Jan 83 pp 22-25

/Article by N. Barabanov, head of the Department for the Introduction of New Planning Methods and Economic Incentives of Gosplan BSSR: "Improving the Structure"7

/Text/ The materials of the 26th CPSU Congress talk about the need to increase persistently the level of administration and economic management. What is the state of this work in the industry of our republic? Specifically, how is the establishment of production associations coming along? Along what path is the work to improve their activities proceeding? The editorial board directed these questions to Nikolay Grigor'yevich Barabanov, head of the Department for the Introduction of New Planning Methods and Economic Incentives of Gosplan BSSR. We publish his answers below.

One of the forms for the improvement of management is the establishment of production associations. In our republic the following principles have been observed in the establishment of these associations. In light industry the principle has been mainly similarity in the production of finished output (clothing, knitted wear, shoes) and consistency in the processing of raw materials (textiles, leathers). In the food industry it has been the common nature of the raw materials used (confectionary, bakery, alcoholic products) or of the enterprises which belong to various subdivisions (canning, wine making, and starch production). In the forestry and wood processing industry two types of associations have been created: timber procurement and woodworking. The republic's local industry has many sectors. For this reason associations have been formed on the basis of a geographic principle with direct subordination to both the local soviets and to the republic's Ministry of Local Industry.

The administrative apparatus of the major enterprise becomes, as a rule, the administrative apparatus for the association, and in this way it is allotted broader functions. The following functions have been centralized in the administrative apparatus: planning, labor and wages, accounting

and bookkeeping, capital construction, material-technical supply provisions, personnel issues and auxiliary services.

At the present time the republic's industry has 220 production associations, which include about 900 enterprises and organizations, of which about 100 retain the right of a legal entity. The associations account for 58 percent of the volume of industrial production.

Particular mention should be made of the practice of establishing associations within the BSSR Ministry of the Forestry Industry. There are two types of production and economic activities within this Ministry: wood processing and timber procurement. Originally, independent woodworking and timber procurement production associations were established. The first were formed on the basis of forest industry units and chemical-forest industry units within the limits of one raw materials zone. The second were formed on the basis of the woodworking enterprises. This has made it possible to eliminate seasonality in the work, to use manpower year round and to reduce significantly personnel turnover.

The activities of the two types of associations within the industry have required, however, further concentration of production, with consideration for more effective combining processes and specialization of production. This experience was started by including within the woodworking associations the timber procurement associations and forest industry units. Timber procurement and woodworking were concentrated in these associations within a single economic complex, and this made it possible to improve the supply of raw materials to woodworking enterprises, and to reduce railway shipments. The Borisov Forest Industry Unit was included in the Borisovdrev Association; the Yel'sk and Turov Forest Industry Units were included in the Mozyr'drev Association, the Gomel'les Association Procurement Association was included in Gomel'drev, the Pleshchenitsles Association was included in Minsk-drev and Mozyr'les was included in Rechitsadrev.

One would like to note that the organization of these production associations has contributed to the improvement of supply work at the enterprises because their needs are beginning to be satisfied to some degree within the limits of the association itself. Previously the ministry was often forced to concern itself with questions of mutual deliveries and the sale of forest products, with the resolution of enterprises' claims against each other, while at the present time these questions are resolved mainly by the association itself. Employees of the ministry's central apparatus are now able to concern themselves more with technical progress, planning, and the analysis of the industry's economic activities.

At the present time the republic's Ministry of the Forestry Industry has 13 woodworking, 5 timber procurement and one scientific-production association; they include 68 enterprises. The associations account for 97.4 percent of the volume of industrial production, and they employ 96 percent of the people who work in the industry. The economic benefit derived from improvement measures amounted to 1.64 million rubles, including 550,000 rubles derived from the implementation of measures to improve organizational

structure. In recent years the entire increase in industrial production has been obtained from increases in labor productivity.

In what direction will the further improvement of the industry's management move? In the Lithuanian SSR and Trans Carpathia the associations have come to include enterprises of the lumber and woodworking industries, as well as tree farms. In these places, production-economic complexes have been created to grow, procure and process timber. This form of organization has proved its advantages. It is the way of the future. The further improvement of production and management organization in the republic's timber and woodworking industry must proceed along these lines. This is a matter of great, state importance.

The republic's Bell'novolokno Industrial Association and 24 production associations operate within light industry. In addition to the production associations, there are 39 enterprises and 5 combines of various subsectors. Five combines (the Baranovo Cotton Combine, the Grodno Spinning Combine, the Minsk Fine Cloth Combine, the Mogilev Silk Textiles Combine and the Pinsk Knitted Outer Wear Combine) have been transformed into associations. It should be emphasized that their transformation was business-like and fundamental in nature, and had as its goal the increasing of production effectiveness. The legal position of the structural subdivisions was clearly defined, a portion of the funds for economic incentives was put directly at their disposal, self-financing methods of operations were introduced, and the responsibility of subdivision employees for the end results of labor was increased. The associations now account for 52 percent of the total production volume of the industry. The largest concentration of production is in the sectors for the primary processing of flax--98 percent, in textiles the figure is 56 percent and in clothing it is 52 percent.

The formation of agro-industrial associations in the industry for the primary processing of flax is of interest. This is a matter for the near future.

The BSSR Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Industry has in operation six production associations of the dairy industry with a special management apparatus. They encompass 113 enterprises. They all have the legal rights of production units.

The re-organization of administration, as well as the concentration and specialization of production have made it possible to increase the processing of cheese and butter at one enterprise (without additional capital investment) nearly two-fold. The total economic benefit from improvements in the management of the dairy sector have amounted to nearly 6 million rubles.

As for the meat sector, a production association was established on the basis of the Minsk Meat Combine. The Minsk Meat Processing Plant and the Stolbtsy Meat Combine were included in it. It is also possible to create other production associations, especially within the administrative limits of the oblast and based on a major meat combine, the management apparatus of which would be capable of taking upon itself the functions of an association's administration.

Within the BSSR Ministry of the Food Industry production associations have been established both from enterprises of a single sector as well as from various sectors. They have included mainly enterprises located within one oblast. At the present time this ministry has under its jurisdiction 25 production associations and 10 combines with the rights of production associations; they include 162 enterprises. The associations (combines) of this ministry account for nearly 80 percent of production volume.

It should be noted that departmental separation hinders to a certain extent the further concentration and specialization of production in the food industry. We will cite some examples of this. The BSSR Ministry of the Food Industry has in operation seven production associations of the bakery industry, and they account for nearly 59 percent of the baked goods. One hundred seventy-four enterprises of a consumers' cooperative bake 39 percent of the bread products. Frequently the bread plants of the BSSR Ministry of the Food Industry and of the Belkoopsoyuz /Cooperative Union of the Belorussian SSR/ are located in the same administrative regions. In short, further concentration of the industry's production is possible, but in order to achieve this it is necessary to resolve the issue of the inclusion of enterprises which are characterized by the cooperative form of property in the associations. Is this kind of solution possible? Yes. It will help to bring the two forms of property--state and cooperative--closer together, as was done when the agro-industrial associations were created. The concentration of bread production will make it possible to provide better supplies of bread products to both the urban and rural population. There remains to be solved only the question of how to ensure that products are moved smoothly and without interruption into the commercial network, especially in a rural area.

In our republic the production of building materials is the business of seven ministries and agencies, which have enterprises often located not far from each other and producing the same goods. True, the output differs in quality and cost. In the specialized ministry, which has services for the organization and management of production, the technical-economic indices are much better. The enterprises of the specialized ministry have labor productivity in the clay brick production section which is twice that of local industry enterprises.

Unfortunately, associations are established within the BSSR Ministry of the Building Materials Industry and the BSSR Ministry of Local Industry only from among enterprises which come under their jurisdiction. At present the BSSR Ministry of the Building Materials Industry has in operation 9 production associations which are comprised of 26 enterprises, as well as 32 other enterprises. Five production associations have been created within the BSSR Ministry of Local Industry. They are made up of 21 enterprises. In terms of production volume, these associations are one-third to one-sixth as productive as associations of the BSSR Ministry of the Building Materials Industry. It would be advisable to include related enterprises of the Ministry of Local Industry in the production associations of the BSSR Ministry of the Building Materials Industry. At the first stage, enterprises which operate year round have been provided with large supplies of raw materials.

The brick plants of the BSSR Ministry of Local Industry have an extremely low level of technical equipment; they are not fully supplied with personnel, the costs of their output are high and its quality is low. In order to correct the situation the Ministry of the Building Materials Industry must make considerable additional efforts. The resolution of the problem, in fact, depends on this. But, in this way, a narrow departmental position is for now getting the upper hand.

Every sector of the BSSR Ministry of Local Industry has its own features. For this reason the production associations here have been established from the enterprises of one sector, with consideration for geographical location. This ministry has a total of 50 production associations, comprised of 147 enterprises. The associations here are responsible for 70 percent of production volume. The local industry associations are extremely different in their production volumes and staffing levels. For example, the Belmestbytkhim Production Association has a production volume of 44 million rubles, and an average annual number of employees amounting to about 1,400 people. The Polotsk Founding and Mechanical Association has figures of 17.5 million and 1,300 respectively, while the Lepel' Woodworking Combine has 5.8 million and 697 respectively.

And a few more words about departmental separateness. Where does it manifest itself most in our republic? In the food, forestry, woodworking and building materials industries, in the level of material and technical supply, in motor vehicle transportation for general use and in capital construction. No one wants to turn away from "his own," even if it is small and poor, it is nonetheless his own. And it is business which suffers from this, and the national economy as a whole. The time has come to meet the need for general management schemes which must be worked out not ministry by ministry but sector by sector. The following are entrusted with the development of such schemes: the Ministry of the Food Industry, the Ministry of Fruit and Vegetable Farming, and Tsentsosoyuz [Central Union of Consumers' Societies, USSR] for schemes related to the food industry; the Ministry of the Lumber and Paper Industries and the State Committee on Forestry for schemes related to forestry and woodworking; the Ministry of the Building Materials Industry together with the union republics for schemes related to the building materials industry; the Ministry of Motor Vehicle Transportation in the union republics for schemes related to general use motor vehicle transportation; Gosstroy for schemes related to capital construction; Gossnab for schemes related to material and technical supply. This kind of work-up should overcome to a certain degree the problem of departmental separateness.

Today work is being carried out to improve management in all sectors of the national economy. The first wholesale and retail trade associations have been established in Gomel Oblast. All the oblast cities and Minsk have established water and sewerage associations, as well as associations for heating networks (except the Brest Administration). The administration for housing and municipal services of the Brest Oblispolkom and the enterprises and organizations subordinate to it were the basis for the establishment of a production administration for housing and municipal services. In Brest, Baranovichakh and Pinsk the housing departments of the municipal services and

the enterprises and organizations subordinate to them have been the basis for the establishment of municipal production associations of housing and communal services. A system for the administration of consumer services for the public is being worked out.

Further work to improve management is related to the granting of greater economic independence to ministries and production associations, to the establishing of their full responsibility for the satisfaction of the economy's and the public's needs for the goods and services being produced. For this it is advisable to carry out the maximum possible concentration of production and of the scientific organizations in the specialized agency which ensure it; it is also necessary to concentrate within the ministry the supply and marketing activities and to shift supply onto direct, long-term economic ties without intermediaries; a plan for the production of output based on an expanded product list derived from consumer demands should be developed with consideration for the full utilization of production capacities; the minimal number of indicators should be approved for the ministries, broader use should be made of the norm for wages per ruble of output, the norm for the method of profit distribution and other norms. And there is more. The ministries must be given the opportunity to maneuver with the resources of the centralized funds and reserves. Funds which they have not used should not be removed. The basic conditions for the awarding of bonuses to employees of the administrative apparatus should be the fulfilment of obligations for the delivery of output, the growth of labor productivity, the reduction of production expenditures and for improvements in output quality. Bonuses should be awarded on the basis of results for work completed within the year.

Which functions must the administrative apparatus of the republic's ministry fulfil under the new conditions of economic management? First of all, it must resolve in a skilled manner issues related to the future development of the sector, to the mastery and application of scientific and technical achievements, to the satisfaction of the economy's and the public's needs for output produced by the enterprises under their jurisdiction, and to improvements in the effectiveness of the sector's operation. The specialists of the ministry's administrative apparatus are obliged to be consultants for employees of the associations and enterprises under their jurisdiction. Thus, the administrative apparatus of the ministry must consist of highly skilled specialists who have sufficient experience of production work. And they must have salaries in line with this.

What must be done in order to establish an administrative apparatus of this kind? Change the currently existing regulations concerning the proportions of specialists, senior specialists, leading specialists, chief specialists and directors of structural subdivisions of the republic's ministries and agencies. Grant the ministries and agencies the right to establish for themselves the proportions of different kinds of specialists. Under these circumstances it is possible to establish a highly skilled administrative apparatus with the same or even somewhat reduced appropriation limits.

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CONSUMPTION TRENDS AND POLICIES

LIGHT INDUSTRY URGED TOWARD GREATER EFFICIENCY

Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 20 Jan 83 p 1

[Article: "Goods for the Nation"]

[Text] The concern for the Soviet people and the growth of their prosperity, as was emphasized by the November (1982) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, remains the most important planning goal of the party. The state plan for the USSR's economic and social development in 1983 indicates that the increase in class B goods output is to outstrip that in group A production. Whereas the output of consumer articles will rise by 3.5%, that of the means of production will increase by 3.1%. Compared to 1982, workers will obtain far more textiles, clothing, footwear, porcelain dishes and articles for everyday use, cultural purposes and home maintenance.

Light-industry workers understand what important tasks face them in the third year of the 11th Five-Year Plan. In discussing the resolutions of the November Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet's seventh session at their party and workers' meetings, they mentioned ways to implement the utilization of productive potential, the unvarying conservation of resources and the improvement of output quality.

A great and complex task lies ahead. In the various regions of the nation, new capacities for the output of consumers goods are constantly starting construction. As new start-ups in 1982, we will cite the soft leather plant at the Sterlitamak leather and footwear combine, new sections for weaving with a total capacity of 3,500 machines at the Andizhan and Tiraspol' cotton combines, some branches of the spinning and weaving factories in Uzbekistan and new sewing enterprises in Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev, Leninabad, Evpatoriya, Przheval'sk and other cities. The branch is developing, acquiring force and gaining strength.

However, progress of this kind could be made more quickly if newly constructed enterprises reached planned dimensions sooner. Often, their construction and installation period is protracted. According to Central Statistical Administration data, planned capacities have been fully realized only at one-third of the enterprises opened before the end of the 10th Five-Year Plan.

There is an especially unfavorable situation with respect to new construction in Uzbekistan (UzSSR Minister of Light Industry: M. Kurbanov).

Strict conservation of material resources must accompany the fulfillment of more stringent requirements with respect to increasing consumers goods' output. There is a considerable accumulation within the branch of experience in utilizing raw and manufactured materials carefully. But reserves still abound. Thus, scientists in branch institutes, seeking more rational use of cotton thread, formulated recommendations for the effective utilization of the lower grades of cotton. The textile manufacturers of Belorussia, Armenia and some other republics have successfully implemented these recommendations. They have consistently increased the output from a given amount of raw material. Yet the collectives of the cotton combine in Gori and the textile combines of Osh and Mingechaur make virtually no use of this significant resource.

That there are a good many such examples shows that careful, economical management of raw material and semifinished goods has not yet become a law of life and action for all the branch's enterprises. Industrial managers and the workers in the party, trade unions and Komsomol must make a considerable effort for the inclusion of as many workers and specialists as possible in the struggle for economy and care.

Recently, the branch has felt increasingly that labor is scarce. The annual loss to light industry of 20-25,000 workers makes it extremely important to utilize labor resources optimally and to reduce losses in man-hours to the utmost.

How we are to achieve this goal is clear: the basic direction is that of technical progress, the introduction of the latest scientific discoveries and the use of front-line know-how. For example, at the combine for cloth accessories "Red Ribbon", Moscow Oblast, the collective has increased its production volume in the past few years to one and one-half times the previous amount without additional workers. Valuable experience has been acquired by collectives of the Dedovsk production combine for industrial textiles and of some others.

Nevertheless, despite the sufficiently rapid retooling of factories and combines, growth in labor productivity has slowed perceptibly in recent times. One reason for this is that by no means all the technology introduced at enterprises raises the level of mechanization and automation with any real impact; nor does it facilitate increased output of goods.

Moreover, cases of the failure to utilize the latest machines and devices for a long time are still occurring. Thus, at the enterprises of the KaSSR Ministry of Light Industry (V. Ibragimov, minister), the imported equipment that was not installed amounted to over 15 million R; these were the nonwoven materials factory in Kzyl-Orda, the silk combine in Ust'-Kamenogorsk and the porcelain plant in Kokchetav.

Shoppers are making greater and greater demands with respect to the assortment and quality available in consumers goods. But by no means all enterprises work at the level demanded. Articles for which there is no demand still come off the assembly line; many new models are only slightly different from previously produced articles. In 1982 there were 194 light-industry items from which the mark of quality was removed.

As a result of production below consumer standards, inventories of unsalable items grow. The branch has not created systematic measures appropriate to stimulating production of goods for which the demand has increased. The system would lower the boom on all those who work only for the warehouse.

Every defect or oversight is the fault of one person or another with an incompetent or cavalier attitude to his work, the assigned segment of a project. An atmosphere of irreconcilability must be created to surround such persons. A deep awareness of one's responsibility to work delegated one, to the enterprise's success and to a greater degree of satisfaction of the entire society's interests must be inculcated in everyone. There is no other way.

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CSO: 1827/87

CONSUMER TRENDS AND POLICIES

WEST SIBERIA'S INFRASTRUCTURE OF RETAIL TRADE FACILITIES IN OIL, GAS DESCRIBED

Novosibirsk IZVESTIYA SIBIRSKOGO OTDELENIYA AKADEMII NAUK SSSR: SERIYA
OBSHCHESTVENNYKH NAUK in Russian No 11, Sep 82 pp 90-96

[Article by E.G. Dzhioyev, Novosibirsk Institute of Soviet Cooperative Trade:
"Questions of Location of Infrastructure Trade Facilities in Oil-and-Gas-
Bearing Regions of West Siberia"]

[Text] The location of infrastructure trade facilities¹ in regions of new economic development should correspond, on the one hand, with the location of populated localities and, on the other, with the location of sources of creation of commodity resources. At the same time the network of interconnected retail and wholesale enterprises serves as the basis of integrated services for the population which takes into consideration in addition to the general conditions of the regions of the Near and Far North, methods of development and systems of settlement and transport operation. The author has concentrated on these initial prerequisites in the development of a scheme of regional organization of a network of trade enterprises adequate to the needs of development of oil-and-gas-bearing regions.

Here fixed and mobile forms of settlement developed. The fixed form of settlement is expressed in single and group forms of settlement. Two functional types of permanent settlements correspond to them: (1) workers settlements serving one or several deposits; (2) cities and large workers settlements intended to serve groups of deposits. The first type of settlements together with mobile places serves as the basis for expeditionary development where workers are placed close to the site of their labor and make daily or periodic trips to work. This has become most prevalent in the gas-bearing districts of Yamalo-Nenetsk Autonomous Okrug. The second type of populated localities is characteristic of the special-effort method of development where base cities serve as a place of permanent residence from which workers make periodic trips to their work sites.

1. In this article, trade enterprises are considered as part of a region's social infrastructure rather than as parts of a "trade" sector.

Settlement in a whole region applies to a significant concentration of the population in a few large populated localities with sparse settlement for the overwhelming portion of the population (72 percent) scattered over a large territory and having no transport connections among them. This has given rise to a unique structure of populated places and to the problem of providing for them because, as a consequence of the isolation of the settlements, each of them is obliged to have infrastructure facilities, but is unable to provide the necessary level of services.

The creation of an infrastructure, in addition to crowdedness and character of disposition of populated places, is influenced by their functional structure. In the North, the following basic types of populated localities may be found: rayon centers, base cities and urban-type settlements, local centers (economic centers and settlements of the "mixed" type), other populated places--settlements of timber-industry enterprises, small-industry operations, special work-project settlements and so on. In connection with the organization of trade services in a region, there have come into existence three types of schemes of interoperation or functional structures: (1) traditional--rayon centers--local centers--ordinary populated places; (2) formal (production)--base cities--places of development; (3) informal (production)--base cities--intermediary support points--places of development. The rise of an informal structure is due to a tendency of transition from a solitary to a group system of settlement as the result of drawing together of the expeditionary and special-effort (vakhtovyy) methods of development. The interaction of these types of settlement has resulted in the formation of two levels of central places: the first--rayon centers and cities; the second--local centers.

Because of the large size of the territory and considerable remoteness of the settlements, it is essential that a central place be located where possible nearer to a network of serviced settlements, that is, the second level is preferable to the first, inasmuch as it promotes the creation of small servicing zones. In the absence or insufficiently full use of intermediary local centers serving as support servicing points, it becomes necessary to amalgamate ordinary populated places and after them central places of the first level. This is what happened to the settlements of Mamontovskiy, Pokachevskiy, Pangody, Noyabr'skiy and others which initially were planned as special-effort but gradually grew into large supported workers settlements (of more than 5,000 persons) for groups arising near special-effort settlements. Some of them, while continuing to serve individual deposits, that is, while remaining as formally special-effort settlements, because of significant remoteness from base cities, were forced to create locally all the needed production and social infrastructure, which inevitably resulted in their considerable growth. It is characteristic for the size of base cities to also grow here since a significant portion of the functions of servicing deposits remains with them. Observations have shown that in the functional scheme "base city--place of development" the sizes of special-effort settlements grow tenfold on the average and of base cities--1.5-twofold.

By means of correlation analysis, stable trends were found between sizes of places of different functional type. Thus amalgamation of base cities brings

about a reduction in the sizes of local centers with correlation respectively of 0.895 and 0.736. The correlation between the sizes of ordinary settlements and central places of the first level was 0.750 and 0.640, that is, amalgamation of individual ones brings about a growth in the number of inhabitants of others. It may therefore be expected that strengthening of existing and creation of intermediary support points between base cities and special-effort settlements will hold back excessive concentration of the population in central places of the first level and make it possible not to amalgamate ordinary populated places.

The location of infrastructure retail-trade facilities should be subordinated to the requirements which first of all take into consideration the conditions and characteristics of regional development. This is not contradicted by the generally accepted principle of concentric location of retail trade enterprises at the different populated places depending on their size and place occupied in the functional hierarchy of settlements of a certain rank (rayon, okrug, oblast and so forth). The populated places themselves are considered as parts of a common system, which are functionally interdependent. Some of them serve as centers of gravity of the purchasing funds of the population, others as centers gravitating to these centers.

Mutual remoteness and limitations of transport accessibility of populated places in regions of the North, weakening to a certain degree the functional ties between them, give rise to a number of characteristic features in the formation of the infrastructure. In particular, growth of size and administrative and economic importance of the settlements is accompanied by a rise in per-capita trade turnover and effectiveness of use of enterprises with simultaneous reduction of their number by 1,000 inhabitants. If indicators for a region as a whole be taken as equal to 1.0, then per-capita trade turnover will amount in rayon centers and cities to 1.1; in local centers to 0.8; in ordinary places to 0.6; effectiveness of use of enterprises will be 1.3, 0.7 and 0.3; provision of infrastructure facilities will be respectively--0.9, 1.2 and 1.8. This means that the distribution of enterprises among the remaining types of settlements does not correspond to the location of the purchasing funds of the population. As a result, rayon centers and cities experience a shortage of trade enterprises and because of their large overload will not be fully able to serve the populations drawn to them. Ordinary places, on the other hand, have a considerable surplus of enterprises that are ineffectively used (22 percent of them unprofitably).

The laws of creation of an infrastructure in local centers reflect factors objectively occurring under the influence of transport factors manifesting in the formation of small service zones around the said locations. This is confirmed by their rather high share in the realized solvent demand of the population.

The principle of differentiated servicing organization found practical expression in a methodology developed by the author of developmental planning and location of retail trade enterprises in regions of the North. The basic methodological premise in it was that the qualitative and quantitative parameters

of development of the infrastructure are determined on the basis of a general requirement of the region without regard to the trade system and the departments serving its individual units. The total prospective requirement norm of the trade network for 1990 computed while taking into account regional differences in consumption as provided by the planned consumer budget would be 320 square meters of trading area per 1,000 inhabitants. The obtained indicator has been differentiated with the aid of the method of multiple correlation according to the administrative regions of the North. There were considered as factor characteristics, the volume of retail goods turnover and the extent of remoteness of settlements to which a decisive role belongs in forming of requirements and location of enterprises.

For individual types of settlements, depending on the level of average per-capita goods turnover and effectiveness in the use of enterprises while taking into account the size of the population served, coefficients were computed of differentiation of requirements in the infrastructure; they were for rayon centers and cities--1.2, for local centers--0.7 and for other settlements--0.4. Because of rayon differences, requirement norms for the said types of populated places will differ in each administrative district. Further calculations showed that an increased need for retail enterprises in the North is characteristic both of cities and of rural localities. Under all-union norms of the trade network (city--210 m² of trade area per 1,000 inhabitants and rural--218 m²), estimated requirement norms for the region as a whole for the period to 1990 were 360 and 280 m², that is, respectively higher by 71.4 and 28.4 percent.

The concentric principle of creation of infrastructure retail-trade facilities is suitable for all of the three types of functional structures, but in its practical use there should be taken into account the special features of each, that is, the makeup and interaction of individual elements. In a normal structure, the functions of a central place are fulfilled by a base city, and the gravitational by the places being developed. Here episodic and periodic servicing of permanent ordinary places should occupy a central place and in the absence of a permanent population at special-effort settlements daily servicing as well. The servicing of special-effort settlements boils down to supplying them with goods of primary necessity, that is, they constitute mobile services for their users. For this reason a fixed trade network is created only at places of development with a permanent population (Figure 1). Since base cities also serve mobile settlements, they should have an appropriate infrastructure (this usually consists of general goods warehouses, storage facilities, refrigerated facilities and the like). With a nonformal structure, a base city provides occasional servicing of local support centers and ordinary populated places and a complex one does the same for its own population. A local center presents pereiodic and everyday trade services to its inhabitants and to places being developed without a permanent population and periodic services to permanent worker settlements at deposits. Worker and special-effort settlement provide everyday services to their inhabitants with the difference that the former offer it a broader assortment of goods through a permanent trade network (manufactured goods and foodstuffs of everyday demand), while the latter basically arrange for the feeding of the workers (Figure 2).

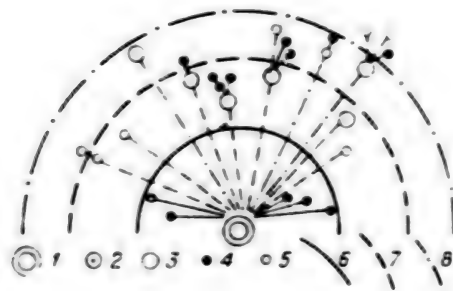


Figure 1. Schematic diagram of services for the functional relationship of "base city—place of development."

1--base city, 2--support settlement, 3--worker settlement, 4--special-effort settlement, 5--special-effort settlement with a permanent network; services: — everyday, --- periodic, -.- occasional; limits of service zones: 6--everyday, 7--periodic, 8--occasional.

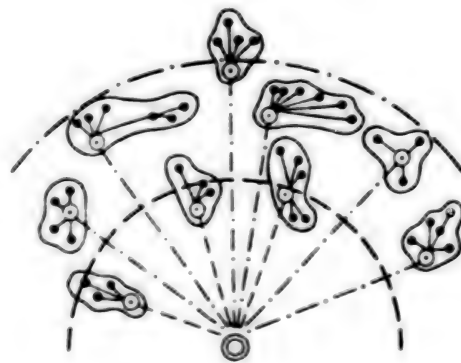


Figure 2. Schematic diagram of services for the functional relationship of "base city--support settlement--place of development."

Comprehensive trade services are provided not only by retail but also by wholesale enterprises. Study of ways of rational location of a network of wholesale enterprises led to a conclusion of the need of changing the entire system of goods movement in the region of the North, first of all the character of bringing of goods--from advance (dosrochnyy) to regular. The basic criterion in the solution of this problem is the feasibility of uninterrupted and quality provision of the population with goods requiring their regular arrival over the course of the entire year. At the same time, those trends and variants of bringing in of goods and those forms of transport which provide for their delivery in areas of consumption and sale in periods determined by technical conditions and GOST's are considered rational.

Because of the seasonal character of overland routes of communication, regular importation of goods into the regions of the North on a year-round basis can only be done by air. But high air rates under the limited financial conditions of the trade organizations make the use of aviation practically impossible for this purpose. A comparison of the different variants of shipping goods to the regions of the North on the basis of transport costs showed that the variant providing for the use of aviation was in all cases two-threefold more expensive than the existing one. In the case of air shipment of goods paid according to flight-hour rates, transport expenditures frequently exceed not only the size of gross revenues but even the cost of the goods themselves. Nonetheless, analysis of aggregate expenditures for goods movement shows that advance bringing in of a large group of goods is economically not justified even for the trade organizations themselves. The long period of transportation and storage of goods with their numerous transshipments lengthens the circulation time of invested funds and creates a growth of commodity stocks, which means requirements for warehouses, leads to losses of consumer properties and reduction of the quality of the goods and in the final analysis significantly increases expenditures for most of the marketing-cost items.

The deficiencies of the existing system of goods movement are aggravated by the existence of departmental wholesale and by the almost total absence of direct mixed hauls of goods with the participation of motor transport and aviation. These circumstances make it necessary to have transshipment bases in Tyumen and Labytnangi; departmental piers and motor facilities result in the establishment of inefficient connections for the delivery of goods and predetermine an unsubstantiated tendency of them being shipped through Tyumen. As a result, distances of hauls are extended and costs go up by 20-30 rubles for the delivery of each ton of goods.

In the process of the investigation, it was established that it is possible in the regions of the North to really undertake regular delivery of most goods through the use of aviation for shipments to local centers and after that by means of effective water and overland transport facilities. The increase in transportation costs for trade organizations is compensated by big savings (about 3 million rubles) connected with the elimination of the traditional system of advance shipment, as a result of which seasonal accumulation of goods becomes unnecessary, the norm of commodity stocks is reduced and the goods turnover rate is accelerated.

The recommended system of goods movement presupposes the concentration of wholesale trade at boundaries of the regions of the North and their maximum dispersion within the limits of these regions. In practice, this is connected with the creation of large regional supply zones with centers in Labytnangi, Sergin, Sotnik and Surgut and in the future at Nizhnevartovsk and Urengoy. There should be created at these places interregional (regional) wholesale bases with a minimal turnover of 21 million rubles. Furthermore, for the carrying out of goods movement according to the scheme "interregional base--distribution warehouse--store," it will be necessary to set up at local centers 145 distribution warehouses.

The basic parameters for the creation of distribution warehouses are under the influence of counteracting factors. Amalgamation of these facilities of the infrastructure, on the one hand, results in a relative curtailment of operational expenditures and the reduction of specific capital costs for their creation, while, on the other, the zone of activity, the radius of delivery of goods to the trade network and delivery costs are increased. Therefore, the reduction of operational expenditures and capital investment at least within certain limits compensates for the higher cost of hauling goods. Such a limit is to be found in rational size of a warehouse's goods turnover, providing a minimum for cited expenditures. In this connection, it is necessary to take into account frequency of commodity turnover whose growth results in reduction of the cost of delivery of goods without a reduction of the monetary amount of the warehouse.

Calculations show that between goods turnover (x) of distribution warehouses and their specific expenditures--operational (E_x), capital investment (K_x) and transport (T_x), there exists a stable interrelationship which is described by the following equations:

$$E_x = 21.29 + \frac{12.24}{x}; K_x = 101 + \frac{20.71}{x}; T_x = 10.71 + 5.05x.$$

The indexes of correlation are, respectively, 0.884; 0.945; 0.925 and the indexes of determination--0.782; 0.893; 0.855. With the use of quantitative dependences of individual expenditures on the volume of goods turnover on the basis of the minimum function of the presented expenditures², the desired size of storage is found.

Under existing frequency of goods turnover, the rational amount of the distribution warehouse is 1.8 million rubles and for prospective density--4.0 million rubles. Under present-day conditions, the zone of operation of a warehouse is equal to 4,300 km², maximal radius of service of the retail trade network--59 km; for the prospective future the figures are 1,800 km² and 38 km. Because of differences in frequency of goods turnover, indicators of organization of distribution warehouses for basic supply zones differ significantly from average values. The rational amount of a warehouse varies for zones from 2.3 to 5.5 million rubles, area of operation--from 900 to 6,000 km² and the maximal radius of hauling of goods--from 27 to 70 km. The presented data show that in the regions of the North trade services for the population should be advantageously provided through the establishment of small local supply zones that have constant transport ties with the large regional wholesale-trade centers.

Transition to a regular system of bringing in goods is only possible with the creation of a unified wholesale organization for the regions of the North.

2. $[Y_x = E(x) + FK(x) + T(xp)] \rightarrow \min$, where F is the normative coefficient of effectiveness of capital investment, p is frequency of goods turnover per square kilometers of the serviced territory.

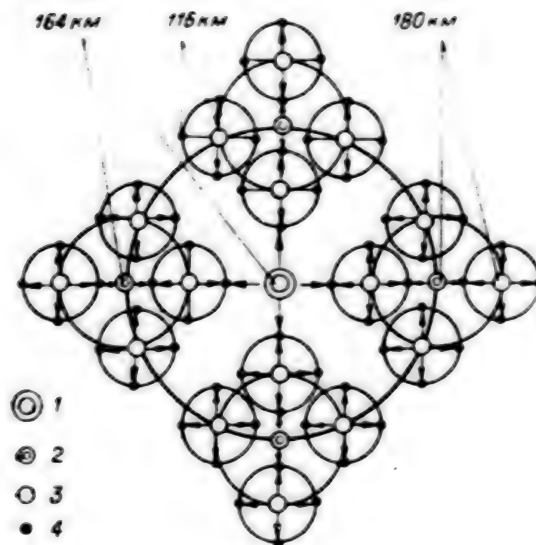


Figure 3. Existing system of organization of trade services in regions of the North.

1--regional center, 2--rayon center, 3--local center, 4--ordinary populated center.

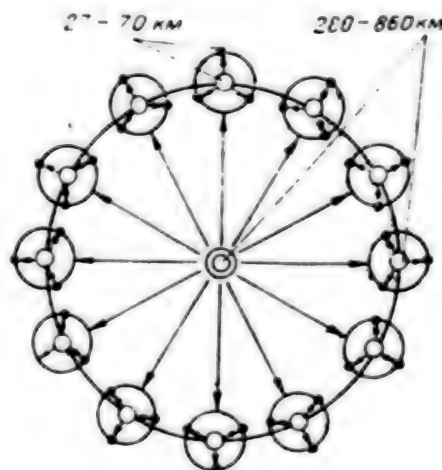


Figure 3. Prospective model of organization of trade services in regions of the North

Legend the same as in Figure 1.

At the same time, aviation must be included in direct combined shipments of goods and the air rates reduced for delivery of consumer goods to the level of truck rates operative in the first group of airlines.

The elimination of departmental goods sold wholesale will rid trade organizations of the need of building and maintaining transshipment bases and having their own piers and motor operations; it will make it possible to significantly cut down on time and to straiten out routes of movement of goods to the North.

The advantageousness of setting up small service zones and intermediate local stations between base cities and special-effort settlements is confirmed by an adopted decision of the USSR Ministry of Petroleum Industry, which provides beginning in 1981 for the creation of support worker settlements in all petroleum producing regions in the north of West Siberia called upon to serve oil deposits in a radius of 50-70 km. This will contribute to an interconnected location of retail and wholesale enterprises and the establishment of a single integrated system of services based on the group system of settlement. The network of functionally interconnected population places will require in addition to a change of the principles of organization of services changes in the structure of trade units. At the present time, the composition and interaction of different-level trade enterprises do not take into consideration the needs of development and new tendencies in settlement but are oriented to traditional disposition of functional types of settlements found in the country's central regions (Figure 3).

The prospective model of service organization eliminates a link, namely the regional, which at the present time is the basic center concentrating the infrastructure and commodity resources. It provides for the maximum proximity of trade services to populated places fulfilling basic production functions (Figure 4). According to this model, wholesale enterprises with general regional functions are concentrated on the boundaries of the new regions or in regional centers close to them serving as basic transportation hubs, while enterprises with local wholesale functions are maximally dispersed within the limits of these regions in numerous local centers--support points for their small service zones. The general system of infrastructure organization is supplemented by concentric disposition of retail trade enterprises in conformity with the functional structure of the settlements. The chief role is given to local centers serving as intermediary support units between base cities and rank-and-file points of development (special-effort settlements). Such a system of organization of services solves the basic problem of location of the infrastructure in the new regions caused by the contradiction between the need of attaining a high level of trade services and the impossibility of providing it in small populated places created at places of application of labor. It permits a rational combination of occasional, periodic and everyday trade services for the population and may be used in the special-effort method of developing a territory and promoting its development.

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CONSUMPTION TRENDS AND POLICIES

PRICE FIXING IN COOPERATIVE TRADE DETAILED

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Jan 83 p 2

[Article by V. Romanyuk: "Price Formation in Cooperative Trade"]

[Text] One of our readers in Tashkent, A. Suslov, wrote in to the editorial board concerning his bewilderment. At a cooperative store he was offered sausage at a price which was higher than that which he usually paid at a delicatessen. "It turns out" he wrote, "that only the name of the product and its producer were changed and yet the price was increased noticeably." This same problem was raised in letters received from other readers. Especially bewildering were those incidents when the cooperation specialists, lacking adequate trade areas, were forced to rent space in state trade stores.

The following thought was expressed in letters sent in by some readers: are not the cooperation specialists becoming rich as a result of the raised prices for their products? Is the time not at hand for restoring order to this work?

It is true, consumer cooperation, taking advantage of the right extended to it for procuring products from the population at agreed upon prices, is selling them at higher prices than the state trade. And here we are not so much concerned with inflated prices as we are with ensuring that a farm is operated on a profitable basis. Indeed, consumer cooperation is not receiving a subsidy from the state budget. It bears mentioning that reader A. Suslov does not object to the products of cooperative enterprises, which although they sell them at higher prices than his products nevertheless supplement the marketable goods and add variety to the food goods being made available. "I believe" he concludes, that it would be more correct to proceed as follows: permit more expensive products but ensure a greater variety. And the sale of such products should be carried out only within the cooperative trade network."

Recently I happened to visit Michurinsk in Tambov Oblast where I became acquainted with the work of a newly created food combine of a local rayon [rayon consumers' society]. The director of the combine, A. Mansayenkov, a young and energetic specialist, enthusiastically discussed how a multiple-specialization production operation was established here, one capable of processing all types of local raw materials. And he pointed out with special pride a sausage shop created at Tumasovo Station. The shop's collective is not very large -- only 15 individuals. Nevertheless, today it is supplying the dining halls of the city's residents with 1,200 tons of boiled and semi-smoked sausages and it is

producing small sausages and smoked foods -- eight different types in all. At what prices? A kilogram of boiled sausage -- 4 rubles and 80 kopecks and a kilogram of semi-smoked sausage -- 6 rubles and 90 kopecks.

Could the prices not be cheaper? No, it is still not possible. The procurement office of the raypotrebsoyuz /rayon union of consumers' societies/ purchases meat from the population at agreed upon prices: 3 rubles and 50 kopecks for a kilogram of beef and 2 rubles and 90 kopecks for a kilogram of pork. It has still not placed its own slaughtering shop in operation; the livestock slaughtering work is often carried out at a distance of 20-30 kilometers from the processing point. Thus it is not always possible to produce the by-products, leather, blood and its plasma -- extremely valuable products. The deliveries and extended storage of meat products in freezers also result in inevitable losses.

The principle of self-reimbursement, which forms the basis for cooperative work, requires efficient and profitable management at all stages -- purchases, procurements, processing. And this is on the condition that the cooperative organizations do not receive raw materials from the state resources. Moreover, since they deal with remote areas, the cooperation specialists are forced to bear considerable expenses associated with delivering the products to the sales and processing areas. And since the livestock are often slaughtered in the peasant farmyards, additional operations are required in connection with the cleaning and dressing of the carcasses and this also increases the costs for the products. Wages must be paid to the procurement specialists, the storekeepers and salesmen and the production expenses must be taken into account. A definite level of profitability must be achieved and a certain percentage of profit obtained and these must be included in the price. The cost for these same Michurinsk sausages in addition include a 3 percent deduction for developing the logistical base for consumer cooperation and another percent -- for issuing incentives to the more active citizens, those who achieved substantial increases in the production of meat, milk, eggs, honey and other raw materials.

A system of measures developed by Tsentrosoyuz /USSR Central Union of Consumers' Societies/ for motivating an agricultural supplier calls for the drawing up of agreements in advance, the payment of monetary advances for the raising of livestock and the sale of feed and goods for which there is a high demand. The contractual prices, according to which the livestock are procured on the private plots, are usually lower than the market prices and a supplier can select that which is most profitable for him. More and more often this selection is being made in favor of cooperation. This is particularly true in view of the fact that the cooperation specialists strive to carry out their procurement work directly in the farmyards and make immediate payment for the cost of the products produced. If the supplier so wishes, he can retain one half of the carcass for himself -- for processing at a nearby consumer cooperation enterprise. In one way or another, compensation must be provided for all of these additional services.

We wish to repeat that the subsidy from the state budget for cooperative output is not extended. In calculating the prices for cooperative trade, in addition to the cost for products procured at the agreed upon prices, the distribution costs and profits for the procurement and trade work are also included.

The price levels and trade conditions at the local markets are also taken into account. But with a mandatory condition: the prices for the products sold in the cooperative trade network must be lower than the market prices. In this manner consumer cooperation resists the market elements, it restrains growth in the prices and thus it renders a fine service for the purchasers, even if they prefer to procure their products at the market.

It is known that the counters in cooperative stores serve to mirror all of the work performed by the potrebsoyuz /union of consumer cooperatives/. Distinct from state trade, which obtains its goods using funds, cooperative trade forms its own assortment: it sells that which it procures from the citizens and the procurement offices. Let us look at the facts. Products were available for offering to the purchasers and the Bashkir ASSR cooperation specialists. Here there were vegetables, fruit, diverse types of canned goods, beef, suet, sausages, turkeys and rabbits. The local cost accounting trade-procurement enterprise combined the procurements of agricultural products from kolkhozes, sovkhoses and individual citizens and their sale to municipal residents into a single entity. Being able to procure and sell their products more cheaply, the Penza cooperation specialists were able to influence the market prices. The products being offered at markets in Ufa were on the average 10-15 percent cheaper than those at markets in neighboring oblasts.

The city residents enjoyed making purchases at such cooperative stores as Olen' and Dary Prirody, where they could purchase smoked foods, honey, nuts, the meat of wild game and many other delicatessen products. At the Kooperator store located in Lvov, one could always purchase beef, mutton, pork and a wide assortment of sausage -- Bukovinskaya, Odesskaya, Pashtetnaya and home sausage. In addition, small sausages, Ukrainian suet with garlic and many other products were also available. The prices here were higher than at state trade enterprises, but in return the cooperation specialists carried out continuous deliveries of the principal good goods and this ensured a constant flow of customers. Overall, there are 50 trade cooperative enterprises in the oblast center and several dozen more are expected to open for business during the summer and autumn period. They have their own base where the products are sorted, packaged, stored and partially processed. As a rule, the products are delivered to the stores in packaged form and this minimizes losses and raises the level of services for the customers.

In carrying out their work, the cooperation specialists rely upon receiving assistance from the local soviets. For example, the rural deputy groups of the Glodyanskiy Rayon Council of the Moldavian SSR is searching for opportunities for the unhindered pasturing of privately owned livestock. The experience of rural residents P. Novik and V. Buzu is well known throughout the republic. During a year's time, they each raised 1 ton of meat on their private plots and sold it to consumer cooperation. In striving to uncover more completely the reserves available for carrying out this important work, a deputy group in the village of Petrunya, headed by P. Gushan, conducted a rural gathering. During this gathering the decision was made to have each farmyard raise livestock and poultry. The workers attached to consumer cooperation, jointly with the executive committees of rural and settlement soviets select representatives from among the more active members to whom are usually assigned from 15 to 20 farmyards. They furnish assistance to the owners in correctly determining which

crops are to be grown first of all and which small domestic animals offer the greatest amount of profitability for raising in a particular area. As a result of the assistance furnished by the deputies and activists, more than 7,000 agreements were concluded in the rayon during a year's time for the sale of meat, dairy products and eggs by consumer cooperation.

Consumer cooperation will make an even greater contribution towards supplementing the country's food resources. Compared to the 10th Five-Year Plan, when an average of 480,000 tons of meat was procured from the population annually, in 1981 -- 851,000 and in 1982 -- approximately 1 million tons. This constitutes a substantial addition to the state resources! And in addition to meat, they are procuring milk, eggs, fish, vegetables, fruit, flour, sugar, mushrooms, nuts and many other products from the population.

Last year they procured 35,000 tons of honey. The price agreed upon ranged from 3 rubles and 50 kopecks to 4 rubles per kilogram. This was considerably lower than the market prices. Hundreds of thousands of tons of potatoes were procured from the population. The average procurement price for a kilogram -- 20-25 kopecks, the sales price -- 30 kopecks. This was the price at which the cooperation specialists sold their potatoes in Volgograd, while at the same time 50 kopecks were being paid for a kilogram at the local markets.

Mention should be made of the difficulties which are restraining the initiative of the cooperative organizations. In some oblasts and krays, the cooperation specialists are sustaining losses in carrying out their trade work and naturally this is not promoting the development of their initiative in the procurement and sale of additional food resources.

Further improvements are required in the practice of price formation, especially in the case of meat procured from the population. It is being procured not only by the organizations of consumer cooperation but also by kolkhozes, sovkhoses, the department of workers' supply, enterprises of the meat and dairy industry, subsidiary enterprises of industry and other departments and this is resulting in unjustifiably inflated prices and unhealthy competition. Such is the situation with regard to developing the resources of wild fruits and berries. In some republics, the cooperative organizations are being permitted to purchase livestock only following fulfillment by the kolkhozes and sovkhoses of the state plan for meat procurements and this is inhibiting the work of the cooperation specialists in procuring surplus meat from the population.

Today, with the agroindustrial complex being singled out as an independent object for planning and administration, consumer cooperation and its activities must be included in a harmonious manner within the overall system for implementing the country's food program. Positive improvements are beginning to take place in solving the problem of exactly what is "profitable" or "unprofitable." In particular, a solution has been found for the problem of price formation for canned goods produced from fruits and vegetables, procured at agreed upon prices and involving the partial use of stock raw materials and other materials -- preservatives, spices, sugar, salt and others. The organizations of consumer cooperation have now been authorized to establish prices for the cooperative trade for canned goods, which will make the production of such goods profitable. In addition it will make it possible for consumer cooperation to

increase the production and expand the variety of canned goods produced from delicatessen vegetables -- scallop squashes, egg-plant, vegetable marrow, sweet peppers and also to increase the production of canned goods made from stone-fruit crops -- cherries, mazzard cherries and cherry plums.

The August 1982 decree of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers on expanding the sale of fruit and vegetable products to organizations of consumer cooperation and at kolkhoz markets is expected to promote an improved supply of fruit and vegetable products for the population. Whereas earlier the cooperation specialists procured only surplus fruit and vegetable products from the kolkhozes at agreed upon prices, today they are authorized to obtain up to 10 percent of their planned volume of procurements from them. This raises the interest of the rural workers in collaborating with the cooperation specialists.

Thus additional economic conditions have been created which make it possible for consumer cooperation to make a more noticeable contribution towards implementing the food program. In the final analysis, the cooperation specialists are striving to make the link between the private economy and the consumers' society stronger and more prolonged, the price policy -- flexible and mutually acceptable and the marketing of the surplus products of the private plots -- guaranteed.

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